E/1989/SR.1-16

# ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

## OFFICIAL RECORDS, 1989

## PLENARY MEETINGS

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**VOLUME I**

***Summary records of the meetings held during the organizational session for 1989 and the first regular session of 1989***

**UNITED NATIONS**

E/1989/SR.1-16

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**VOLUME I**

***Summary records of the meetings held during the organizational session for 1989 and the first regular session of 1989***

**UNITED NATIONS**

**New York, 1993**

## NOTE

The *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1989* consist of the summary records of *Plenary Meetings* (volumes I and II), incorporating corrections requested by delegations and any necessary editorial modifications, the *Supplements* (Nos. 1-17) and the *Lists of Delegations*.

The present volume contains the final summary records of the plenary meetings held by the Council during its organizational session for 1989 (New York, 19 January and 9 and 10 February) and its first regular session of 1989 (New York, 2-24 May).

* * *

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

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**ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION FOR 1989**

**Summary records of the 1st to 4th plenary meetings**

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|---|---|
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| *Thursday, 19 January 1989, at 3.20 p.m.* | |
| OPENING OF THE SESSION | 1 |
| AGENDA ITEM 1: | |
| Election of the Bureau | 1 |
| ORGANIZATION OF WORK | 1 |
| STATEMENT BY THE UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR POLITICAL AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY AFFAIRS AND SECRETARIAT SERVICES | 2 |
| **2nd meeting** | |
| *Thursday, 9 February 1989, at 10.30 a.m.* | |
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| AGENDA ITEM 2: | |
| Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters | 2 |
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| Basic programme of work of the Council for 1989 and 1990 | 3 |
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| *Friday, 10 February 1989, at 10.50 a.m.* | |
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| **4th meeting** | |
| *Friday, 10 February 1989, at 4.25 p.m.* | |
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| | |
|---|---|
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| Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination | 13 |
| **6th meeting** | |
| *Friday, 5 May 1989, at 10.40 a.m.* | |
| AGENDA ITEM 1: | |
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| **7th meeting** | |
| *Monday, 8 May 1989, at 10.25 a.m.* | |
| AGENDA ITEM 1: | |
| Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (*continued*) | 17 |
| **8th meeting** | |
| *Wednesday, 10 May 1989, at 3.15 p.m.* | |
| AGENDA ITEM 3: | |
| Non-governmental organizations | |
| Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations | 19 |
| AGENDA ITEM 1: | |
| Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (*continued*) | 23 |
| **9th meeting** | |
| *Friday, 12 May 1989, at 10.25 a.m.* | |
| AGENDA ITEM 2: | |
| Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (*continued*) | 24 |
| AGENDA ITEM 1: | |
| Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (*continued*) | 27 |
| **10th meeting** | |
| *Monday, 15 May 1989, at 3.15 p.m.* | |
| AGENDA ITEM 2: | |
| Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (*continued*) | 28 |

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**11th meeting**

*Tuesday, 16 May 1989, at 3.10 p.m.*

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Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women ..... 50

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## ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|---|---|
| ACC | Administrative Committee on Co-ordination |
| ANC | African National Congress of South Africa |
| CPC | Committee for Programme and Co-ordination |
| IBRD | International Bank for Reconstruction and Development |
| OAU | Organization of African Unity |
| PLO | Palestine Liberation Organization |
| SWAPO | South West Africa People's Organization |
| The Twelve | The 12 States comprising the European Community |
| UNCTAD | United Nations Conference on Trade and Development |
| UNDP | United Nations Development Programme |
| UNEP | United Nations Environment Programme |
| UNESCO | United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization |
| UNOV | United Nations Office at Vienna |
| UNTAG | United Nations Transition Assistance Group |
| WFTU | World Federation of Trade Unions |
| WHO | World Health Organization |
| WMO | World Meteorological Organization |

## AGENDA OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION FOR 1989

**Adopted by the Council at its 2nd plenary meeting, on 9 February 1989**

1. Election of the Bureau
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters
3. Basic programme of work of the Council for 1989 and 1990
4. Elections to subsidiary bodies of the Council and confirmation of representatives on the functional commissions
5. Provisional agenda for the first regular session of 1989 and related organizational matters

## AGENDA OF THE FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF 1989

**Adopted by the Council at its 5th plenary meeting, on 2 May 1989**

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters
2. Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination
3. Non-governmental organizations
4. United Nations University
5. Public administration and finance
6. Statistical and cartographic questions:
   (*a*) Statistics
   (*b*) Cartography
7. Natural resources
8. Transnational corporations
9. Human rights questions:
   (*a*) International Covenants on Human Rights
   (*b*) Human rights
10. Women:
    (*a*) Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
    (*b*) Advancement of women
11. Social development:
    (*a*) World social situation
    (*b*) Social policy and social development
12. Narcotic drugs
13. Elections and nominations
14. Consideration of the provisional agenda for the second regular session of 1989

## CHECK-LIST OF DOCUMENTS

NOTE. Listed below are the documents pertaining to the work of the Council during its organizational session for 1989 and its first regular session of 1989.

| *Document number* | *Title or description* | *Agenda item* | *Observations and references* |
|---|---|---|---|
| | **Organizational session for 1989** | | |
| E/1989/1 and Add.1 | Proposed basic programme of work of the Council for 1989 and 1990 | 3 | |
| E/1989/2 | Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters | 2 | |
| E/1989/3 | Elections to subsidiary bodies of the Council, and confirmation of representatives on the functional commissions: note by the Secretary-General | 4 | Replaced by E/1989/3/Rev.1 |
| E/1989/3/Rev.1 and Add.1 | *Idem* | 4 | See 3rd meeting, paras. 1-4 |
| E/1989/39 | Note by the Secretary-General transmitting a letter dated 19 December 1988 from the Director-General of UNESCO | 2 | *Ibid.*, 2nd meeting, para. 2 |
| E/1989/INF/2 and Add.1 | Recommendations adopted by the General Assembly at its forty-third session calling for action by Governments and organizations of the United Nations system in the economic, social and related fields | | |
| E/1989/INF/3 | Calendar of conferences and meetings for 1989: note by the Secretariat | | |
| E/1989/INF/4 | Decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its organizational session for 1989 | | For the printed text, see *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1989, Supplement No. 1* (E/1989/89), decisions 1989/101-1989/104 |
| E/1989/INF/5 | List of delegations | | |
| E/1989/L.8 | Draft proposals prepared by the Secretariat on the basis of informal consultations held by the President of the Council | 2, 3 and 5 | See 4th meeting, paras. 1-37 |
| E/1989/SR.1 to 4 | Provisional summary records of the 1st to 4th plenary meetings held by the Council during its organizational session for 1989 | | The final texts of the records are to be found in the present volume |
| E/1989/WP.1 | Review of recurrent and other documentation to be submitted to the Economic and Social Council in 1989: note by the Secretariat | 3 | |
| | **First regular session of 1989** | | |
| A/43/755 | Emergency assistance to the Sudan: summary of urgent humanitarian requirements: report of the Secretary-General | 1 | |
| A/44/38 | Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on the work of its eighth session | 10 | *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 38* |
| A/44/98 | Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the meeting of Chairpersons of human rights treaty bodies | 9 | |
| A/44/261 | Emergency assistance to Somalia: report of the Secretary-General | 1 | |
| E/1988/20-E/AC.57/1988/17 | Report of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control on its tenth session (Vienna, 22-31 August 1988) | | *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1988, Supplement No. 10* |
| E/1989/4 | Election of six members of the International Narcotics Control Board: note by the Secretary-General | 13 | |
| E/1989/5 and Add.1 | Additional information submitted by the Governments of Zaire and France in relation to the implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights: note by the Secretary-General | 9 (*a*) | For the consideration of the information submitted by States parties to the Covenant, see E/1989/22 |
| E/1989/6 | Eleventh report of the International Labour Organisation under article 18 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights: note by the Secretary-General | 9 (*a*) | |
| E/1989/8 | National experience in promoting the co-operative movement: report of the Secretary-General | 11 | Circulated under the double symbol A/44/79-E/1989/8 |

| *Document number* | *Title or description* | *Agenda item* | *Observations and references* |
|---|---|---|---|
| E/1989/9 | Preparation of a system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women for 1996-2001: report of the Secretary-General | 10 (*b*) | |
| E/1989/13 | Second review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Plan of Action on Aging: report of the Secretary-General | 11 | |
| E/1989/14 | National experience in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress: report of the Secretary-General | 11 | Circulated under the double symbol A/44/86-E/1989/14 |
| E/1989/15 and Corr.1 and Add.1 | Implementation of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development: report of the Secretary-General | 11 | Circulated under the double symbol A/44/116-E/1989/15 and Corr.1 and Add.1 |
| E/1989/20-E/CN.4/1989/86 | Report of the Commission on Human Rights on its forty-fifth session (30 January–10 March 1989) | 9 | *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1989, Supplement No. 2* |
| E/1989/21-E/CN.3/1989/25 | Report of the Statistical Commission on its twenty-fifth session (6-15 February 1989) | | *Ibid., Supplement No. 3* |
| E/1989/22-E/C.12/1989/5 | Report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its third session (6-24 February 1989) | | *Ibid., Supplement No. 4* |
| E/1989/23-E/CN.7/1989/1 | Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its thirty-third session | | *Ibid., Supplement No. 5* |
| E/1989/25-E/CN.5/1989/12 | Report of the Commission for Social Development on its thirty-first session (13-22 March 1989) | | *Ibid., Supplement No. 7* |
| E/1989/26-E/C.7/1989/11 | Report of the Committee on Natural Resources on its eleventh session (27 March–5 April 1989) | | *Ibid., Supplement No. 8* |
| E/1989/27-E/CN.6/1989/11 | Report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its thirty-third session (29 March–7 April 1989) | | For the final text, see *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1989, Supplement No. 9* (E/1989/27/Rev.1-E/CN.6/1989/11/Rev.1) |
| E/1989/28-E/C.10/1989/16 | Report of the Commission on Transnational Corporations on its fifteenth session (5-14 April 1989) | | *Ibid., Supplement No. 10* (E/1989/28/Rev.1-E/C.10/1989/16/Rev.1) |
| E/1989/28/Add.1-E/C.10/1989/16/Add.1 | Programme budget implications of draft resolution V of the Commission on Transnational Corporations: statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Council | | As annex IV of *Supplement No. 10* |
| E/1989/30 | Annotated provisional agenda for the first regular session of 1989 | 1 | |
| E/1989/37 | Report of the Council of the United Nations University (January-December 1988) | 4 | For the report for January to December 1989, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 31* (A/45/31) |
| E/1989/38 | Summary of the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 1988 | 12 | For the report, see United Nations publication, Sales No. E.88.XI.4 |
| E/1989/47 | Crime prevention and criminal justice: report of the Secretary-General | 11 (*b*) | |
| E/1989/48 | Global consultation on racism and racial discrimination, held at Geneva from 3 to 6 October 1988: report of the Secretary-General | 2 | |
| E/1989/49 | Allegations regarding infringements of trade union rights: note by the Secretary-General | 9 (*b*) | |
| E/1989/50 | Election of members of the International Narcotics Control Board under the provisions of article 9, paragraph 1, of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol: note by the Secretary-General | 13 | Replaced by E/1989/50/Rev.1 |
| E/1989/50/Rev.1 | *Idem* | 13 | See 13th meeting, paras. 47-57, and 14th meeting, paras. 1-3 |
| E/1989/51 and Add.1 to 4 | *Idem* | 13 | *Idem* |
| E/1989/52 and Add.1 | Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women: note by the Secretary-General | 13 | See 13th meeting, paras. 58-61, and 14th meeting, para. 4 |
| E/1989/53 | Allegations regarding infringements of trade union rights in South Africa: note by the Secretariat | 9 (*b*) | |
| E/1989/57 | Note by the Secretariat transmitting to the Council the general comments of the Human Rights Committee on article 24 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights concerning the rights of the child | 9 (*a*) | |

| *Document number* | *Title or description* | *Agenda item* | *Observations and references* |
|---|---|---|---|
| E/1989/70 | National experience relating to the situation of women in rural areas: note by the Secretary-General | 10 (*b*) | |
| E/1989/71 | Requests for hearing in connection with agenda items 2, 3, 5, and 7 to 12: report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations | | |
| E/1989/72 | Note by the Secretary-General transmitting a statement by ACC entitled "The need to accelerate the international fight against drug abuse" | 12 | |
| E/1989/76 | Report of the Second (Social) Committee | 12 | For the consideration of the report by the Council, see 12th meeting, paras. 46-78 |
| E/1989/83 | Report of the First (Economic) Committee | 4 | *Idem*, paras. 9-11 |
| E/1989/84 | *Idem* | 5 | *Idem*, paras. 12-14 |
| E/1989/85 | *Idem* | 6 | *Idem*, paras. 15-25 |
| E/1989/86 | *Idem* | 7 | *Idem*, paras. 26-45 |
| E/1989/87 | *Idem* | 8 | *Idem*, 15th meeting, paras. 1-23 |
| E/1989/88 | Report of the Second (Social) Committee | 9 | *Idem*, 16th meeting, paras. 1-75 |
| E/1989/90 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1 | *Idem* | 10 | *Idem*, 15th meeting, paras. 24-65 |
| E/1989/91 and Add.1 | *Idem* | 11 | *Idem*, paras. 66-77 |
| E/1989/C.1/L.1 | China and Lesotho: draft decision | 5 | See E/1989/84 |
| E/1989/C.1/L.2 | Draft decision submitted by the Chairman of the First (Economic) Committee | 6 | See E/1989/85 |
| E/1989/C.2/L.1 | Enlargement of the Commission on the Status of Women: draft resolution XIII recommended by the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-second session and the amendments proposed thereto: note by the Secretariat | 10 (*b*) | |
| E/1989/C.2/L.2 | Provisional application of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances: Australia, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Malaysia, Mexico, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela and Yugoslavia: draft resolution | 12 | See E/1989/76 |
| E/1989/C.2/L.3 | International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking: Australia, Bahamas, Bolivia, Brunei Darussalam, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nicaragua, Peru, Philippines, Singapore, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Thailand: draft resolution | 12 | *Idem* |
| E/1989/C.2/L.4 | Drug addiction among children: Bahamas, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, India, Jamaica, Mexico, Morocco, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Uruguay and Venezuela: draft decision | 12 | *Idem* |
| E/1989/C.2/L.5 | Enlargement of the Commission on the Status of Women: Malaysia, on behalf of the Group of 77: draft resolution | 10 (*b*) | Replaced by E/1989/C.2/L.5/Rev.1 |
| E/1989/C.2/L.5/Rev.1 | _____: revised draft resolution | 10 (*b*) | See E/1989/90/Add.1 and Corr.1 |
| E/1989/C.2/L.6 | Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders: United States of America: draft resolution | 11 | See E/1989/91 |
| E/1989/C.2/L.7 | _____: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Guyana, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela: draft decision | 11 | *Idem* |
| E/1989/C.2/L.8 | International co-operation in combating organized crime: Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, France, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Italy, Poland, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America: draft resolution | 11 (*b*) | *Idem* |
| E/1989/C.2/L.9 | World social situation: Malaysia, on behalf of the Group of 77: draft resolution | 11 (*a*) | Replaced by E/1989/C.2/L.9/Rev.1 |
| E/1989/C.2/L.9/Rev.1 | _____: revised draft resolution | 11 (*a*) | See E/1989/91/Add.1 |

| *Document number* | *Title or description* | *Agenda item* | *Observations and references* |
|---|---|---|---|
| E/1989/C.2/L.10 | Achievement of social justice: Poland and Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic: draft resolution | 11 | Replaced by E/1989/C.2/L.10/Rev.1 |
| E/1989/C.2/L.10/Rev.1 | _____: revised draft resolution | 11 | See E/1989/91 |
| E/1989/C.2/L.11 | Debt relief for enhancing the social development of vulnerable groups in developing countries: Sudan: draft resolution | 11 (*a*) | See E/1989/91/Add.1 |
| E/1989/C.2/L.12 | Programme budget implications of the draft resolution contained in document E/1989/C.2/L.5: statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Council | 10 (*b*) | Also applicable to E/1989/C.2/L.5/Rev.1 |
| E/1989/C.2/L.13 | Programme budget implications of draft resolutions adopted by the Committee at its tenth session: statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Council | 11 | See E/1989/91 |
| E/1989/C.2/L.14 | International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women: Algeria, Argentina, Bahamas, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Yemen, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Greece, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Lesotho, Mexico, Morocco, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Senegal, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zaire: draft resolution | 10 (*b*) | See E/1989/90 |
| E/1989/C.2/L.15 | Elimination of discrimination against women in accordance with the aims of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women: Austria, Australia, Bulgaria, Canada, Cuba, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Iceland, Indonesia, Italy, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Spain, Sweden and Yugoslavia: draft resolution | 10 (*a*) | *Idem* |
| E/1989/C.2/L.16 | Netherlands: amendment to draft resolution II contained in document E/1989/20 | 9 (*b*) | See E/1989/88 |
| E/1989/C.2/L.17 | France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Italy, Peru, Philippines and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: amendment to draft resolution IV contained in document E/1989/20 | 9 (*b*) | *Idem* |
| E/1989/C.2/L.18 | Right of peoples to self-determination and its application to peoples under colonial or alien domination or foreign occupation: Belgium, Belize, Brunei Darussalam, Cameroon, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Djibouti, Fiji, France, Gambia, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Japan, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Morocco, Nepal, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Saint Lucia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sudan, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Zaire: draft decision | 9 | *Idem* |
| E/1989/C.2/L.19 | International Covenants on Human Rights: Australia, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Italy, Mongolia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution | 9 (*a*) | *Idem* |
| E/1989/C.2/L.20 | Infringements of trade union rights in South Africa: Burkina Faso, on behalf of the African States: draft resolution | 9 (*b*) | *Idem* |
| E/1989/C.2/L.21 | Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and German Democratic Republic: amendments to draft resolution E/1989/C.2/L.5/Rev.1 | 10 | See E/1989/90/Add.1 and Corr.1 |
| E/1989/INF/6 | List of delegations | | |
| E/1989/INF/7 | Resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1989 | | For the final text, see *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1989, Supplement No. 1*, (E/1989/89), resolutions 1989/1 to 1989/84 and decisions 1989/105 to 1989/162 |
| E/1989/L.1 | Election of members of the functional commissions of the Council: note by the Secretary-General | | See 13th meeting, paras. 1-15 and 41 |
| E/1989/L.2 | Election of 16 members of the Commission on Transnational Corporations: note by the Secretary-General | 13 | *Idem*, paras. 6-19 |
| E/1989/L.3 | Election of 10 members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund: note by the Secretary-General | 13 | *Idem*, paras. 20-23 |

| Document number | Title or description | Agenda item | Observations and references |
|---|---|---|---|
| E/1989/L.4 | Nomination of 12 members of the World Food Council: note by the Secretary-General | 13 | *Idem*, paras. 34-36 |
| E/1989/L.5 | Nomination of seven members of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination: note by the Secretary-General | 13 | *Idem*, paras. 31-33 |
| E/1989/L.6 | Election of five members of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes: note by the Secretary-General | 13 | *Idem*, paras. 28-30 |
| E/1989/L.7 | Election of 16 members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme: note by the Secretary-General | 13 | *Idem*, paras. 24-27 |
| E/1989/L.9 | Report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its third session | 9 (*a*) | Preliminary version; for the final version, see E/1989/22 |
| E/1989/L.10 | Status of documentation for the session: note by the Secretariat | | Replaced by E/1989/L.10/Rev.1 |
| E/1989/L.10/Rev.1 | *Idem* | | |
| E/1989/L.11 and Add.1 | Organization of the work of the session: note by the Secretariat | 1 | |
| E/1989/L.12 | Matters relating to the work of the Council at its second regular session of 1989: draft decision proposed by a Vice-President of the Council on the basis of informal consultations | 1 | See 6th meeting, para. 2 |
| E/1989/L.13 | Programme of work of the plenary as approved at the 5th meeting | 1 | |
| E/1989/L.14 | Emergency assistance to Democratic Yemen: Bangladesh, Brazil, Bulgaria, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, France, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Japan, Jordan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Nicaragua, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Tunisia, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela and Yugoslavia: draft resolution | 1 | *Idem*, paras. 14 and 15, and 8th meeting, paras. 55 and 56 |
| E/1989/L.15 | Emergency assistance to Djibouti: Bolivia, Brazil, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, France, Ghana, India, Iraq, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Nigeria, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Tunisia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia, Zaire and Zimbabwe: draft resolution | 1 | *Idem*, 8th meeting, paras. 51-54, and 9th meeting, paras. 41 and 42 |
| E/1989/L.16 | Consideration of the provisional agenda for the second regular session of 1989: note by the Secretariat | 14 | *Idem*, 16th meeting, paras. 99-135 |
| E/1989/L.17 | Emergency assistance to Somalia: Somalia: draft decision | 1 | *Idem*, 6th meeting, paras. 9-13, 11th meeting, paras. 1-3, and 12th meeting, paras. 1-4 |
| E/1989/L.18 | Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination: Burkina Faso, on behalf of the African States: draft resolution | 2 | *Idem*, 12th meeting, para. 8, and 16th meeting, paras. 83 and 84 |
| E/1989/L.19 | Guidelines for international decades in economic and social fields: draft resolution proposed by the President on the basis of informal consultations | 1 | *Idem*, 8th meeting, paras. 44-50, and 16th meeting, paras. 89-97 |
| E/1989/NGO/1 | Statement submitted by the International Law Association, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, category II | 11 (*b*) | |
| E/1989/NGO/2 | Statement submitted by the Muslim World League, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, category I | 2 | |
| E/1989/NGO/3 | Statement relating to agenda items 9, 10, 11 and 12 submitted by the International Federation of Women Lawyers, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, category II | | |
| E/1989/NGO/4 | Statement submitted by the Pax Christi, International Catholic Peace Movement, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, category II | 9 | |
| E/1989/NGO/5 | Statement submitted by the International Association of Penal Law, the International Society for Criminology and the International Society of Social Defence, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, category II | 11 | |
| E/1989/SR.5 to 16 | Provisional summary records of the 5th to 16th plenary meetings, held by the Council during its first regular session of 1989 | | The final texts of the records are to be found in the present volume |

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| *Document number* | *Title or description* | *Agenda item* | *Observations and references* |
|---|---|---|---|
| A/44/3/Rev.1 | Report of the Economic and Social Council for the year 1989 | | *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3* |
| E/1989/89 | Resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its organizational session for 1989 and its first regular session of 1989 | | *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1989, Supplement No. 3* |
| E/1989/INF/11 | List, as at 10 May 1989, of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council in 1989, issued on 24 October 1989 | | |
| E/CN.5/1989/2 | 1989 Report on the World Social Situation | | For the printed text, see *1989 Report on the World Social Situation* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.89.IV.1) |

# ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
## ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION FOR 1989

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**Summary records of the 1st to 4th plenary meetings, held at Headquarters, New York, on 19 January and 9 and 10 February 1989**

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# 1st meeting

**Thursday, 19 January 1989, at 3.20 p.m.**

*Temporary President*: Mr. Jean L. RIPERT (Director-General for Development and International Co-operation)

*President*: Mr. Kjeld Vilhelm MORTENSEN (Denmark)

E/1989/SR.1

***Opening of the session***

1. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT declared the organizational session of the Economic and Social Council for 1989 open.

**AGENDA ITEM 1**

**Election of the Bureau**

2. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT informed the members of the Council that the Group of Western European and other States had endorsed the candidacy of Mr. Mortensen (Denmark) for the post of President of the Council for 1989.

*Mr. Mortensen (Denmark) was elected President by acclamation.*

*Mr. Mortensen (Denmark) took the Chair.*

3. The PRESIDENT said that the Council continued to play a central role in the deliberations on economic and social issues in the United Nations system. Although it was facing difficulties in fulfilling its tasks to the full satisfaction of the Member States, those difficulties were perhaps a reflection of the complexity and importance of the issues before the Council. Nevertheless, difficulties and apparent divergent views should not impede efforts to enhance the role of the Council and improve international economic and social co-operation.

4. Achieving the goals set for the Council by the founding fathers of the United Nations required flexibility, pragmatism, confidence and courage on the part of all parties concerned. He counted on the full support of all Member States and the United Nations system in that common endeavour, the success of which would depend on effective teamwork. In that regard, he stressed the need to distinguish between important and unimportant issues and to address the real questions which the Council had been set up to deal with.

5. In accordance with rule 18 of its rules of procedure, the Council was required to elect four Vice-Presidents. He had been informed that, following informal consultations within the regional groups, the following candidates had been nominated: Mr. Chandrashekhar Dasgupta (India), Mr. Hassen Elghouayel (Tunisia), Mr. Guennadi I. Oudovenko (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic) and Mr. Felipe Héctor Paolillo (Uruguay).

*Mr. Chandrashekhar Dasgupta (India), Mr. Hassen Elghouayel (Tunisia), Mr. Guennadi I. Oudovenko (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic) and Mr. Felipe Héctor Paolillo (Uruguay) were elected Vice-Presidents of the Council for 1989 by acclamation.*

***Organization of work***

6. The PRESIDENT said that, with the adoption of its resolution 1988/77 on the revitalization of the Economic and Social Council, the Council had decided on a number of new measures aimed at improving its functioning. On the basis of the guidelines set out in that resolution, the Council would consider the provisional agenda for the organizational session (E/1989/2) and a note by the Secretary-General containing a proposed basic programme of work of the Council for 1989 and 1990 (E/1989/1 and Add.1). The Council would also receive a consolidated note by the Secretary-General containing extracts of decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its forty-third session in the economic, social and related fields, highlighting matters that required action by Member States and organizations of the United Nations system (E/1989/INF/2 and Add.1). In addition, the Council's attention was drawn to the matters requiring action at its organizational session listed in the annotations under item 2 of the provisional agenda. In

accordance with paragraph 2 (*l*) of resolution 1988/77, it was his intention to hold consultations, as appropriate, with members of the Bureau and the Council on the proposed basic programme of work of the Council and other organizational matters to be considered on the basis of those informal consultations. The Bureau would submit its recommendations on such matters to the Council for consideration at its next meeting. It was hoped that that procedure would enable the Council to shorten the duration of its organizational session, which had originally been scheduled to be held from 7 to 10 February 1989. In that regard and for other organizational reasons, he suggested that the Council should suspend the application of rule 2 of its rules of procedure and continue the organizational session at the beginning of February. On the basis of the outcome of its deliberations on the proposed programme of work for 1989-1990, the Council might be able to complete the work of the organizational session in two days.

*It was so decided.*

***Statement by the Under-Secretary-General for Political and General Assembly Affairs and Secretariat Services***

7. Mr. REED (Under-Secretary-General for Political and General Assembly Affairs and Secretariat Services) said that the Economic and Social Council was in the process of a vigorous self-examination, which would make it better able to deal with the twenty-first century. The implementation of Council resolution 1988/77, which contained the framework for the necessary reorganization, required foresight and determination. The international community deserved maximum efficiency from a body to which it had entrusted such heavy responsibilities. In the past few years, there had been a reaffirmation of the central importance of economic and social issues. The international community had accepted the reality of interdependence and had acknowledged the need for an interdisciplinary approach to common problems. The Council's concern for the state of the environment testified to its ability to set priorities for management of the environment, which would be one of the great challenges of the twenty-first century.

8. He felt fortunate to have been present during a renaissance of the Organization and expressed the hope that it would continue. Over the past two years, the world community had revived the vision of the authors of the Charter that the United Nations would be an enduring force for peace in all its aspects. The restoration of faith in the United Nations had meant renewed resolve by the world community to confront non-military threats to peace, and had thus increased the importance of the Council.

9. During his service at the United Nations, he had witnessed major organizational reforms in both budgetary and personnel matters. It was a tribute to the Member States and the Secretary-General that so much had been achieved in so short a period of time. He expressed particular pride at having been a member of the Organization when the Nobel Peace Prize had been awarded to the United Nations Peace-keeping Forces.

10. Over the last several years, the Governments and peoples of the world had come to view the Organization more realistically. There was now more co-operation among the permanent members of the Security Council. That spirit of working together had made possible a more comprehensive and effective approach to all tasks, including those of an economic and social nature. In that connection, he hoped that the renewed verbal support for the United Nations would be matched in all quarters by the necessary financial support. He was pleased to note that for the first time in many years the Organization was taking major steps towards improving management and restoring financial stability. The United States Administration, for its part, had requested the Congress to restore full funding of the United States assessed contribution to the regular budget and had also requested Congress to authorize, in 1989, the payment of the first instalment of arrears.

11. Lastly, as he was leaving the Organization to take up a new position, he wished the Council every success as it proceeded with its deliberations.

*The meeting rose at 3.50 p.m.*

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# 2nd meeting

**Thursday, 9 February 1989, at 10.30 a.m.**

*President*: Mr. Kjeld Vilhelm MORTENSEN (Denmark)

E/1989/SR.2

## AGENDA ITEM 1

### Election of the Bureau (*concluded*)

1. The PRESIDENT said that after consultations with members of the Bureau, it had been agreed that, of the Vice-Presidents elected at the previous meeting Mr. Chandrashekhar Dasgupta (India) would chair the First (Economic) Committee, Mr. Hassen Elghouayel (Tunisia) would chair the Second (Social) Committee, Mr. Guennadi I. Oudovenko (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic) would chair the Third (Programme and Co-ordination) Committee, and Mr. Felipe Héctor Paolillo (Uruguay) would perform functions as required by the Council and would co-ordinate informal consultations.

## AGENDA ITEM 2

### Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (E/1989/2, E/1989/39)

2. The PRESIDENT drew attention to documents E/1989/INF/2 and Add.1, which, pursuant to paragraph 2 (*b*) (i) of Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/77, highlighted recommendations adopted by the General Assem-

bly at its forty-third session that called for action by Governments and organizations of the United Nations system in the economic, social and related fields, and to document E/1989/39, transmitting a letter from the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to the Secretary-General concerning a question raised by the Intergovernmental Bureau for Informatics.

3. He also drew attention to the provisional agenda for the organizational session for 1989 contained in document E/1989/2. If he heard no objections, he would take it that the Council decided to adopt the agenda.

*The agenda was adopted.*

4. Mr. BAKER (Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation), recalling the provisions of Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/64 regarding future Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC) and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC), said that following consultations with members of ACC, the following proposals could be made concerning the convening of the next series of CPC/ACC Joint Meetings: the Joint Meetings should be scheduled for 17 and 18 October 1989, with the first day devoted to preparatory work involving participation at the deputy or senior level and the second day to a meeting attended by executive heads and members of CPC at the ambassadorial level, ACC being scheduled to meet on 19 and 20 October; the meeting on the first day should identify major policy issues to be addressed by the meeting on the second day and, to the extent feasible, possible conclusions and recommendations that could be reached by the Joint Meetings; the Council or CPC might wish to consider either climate change, drug abuse control or poverty alleviation as a possible topic for the next series of Joint Meetings; once the topic had been identified, arrangements would be made for the background paper to be prepared within the framework of ACC and to make it available to members of the Joint Meetings in early September 1989; to the extent possible, the Joint Meetings could propose a topic for the next session to the Council.

5. In the light of the above, the Council should decide on the date and the new arrangements for the Joint Meetings for 1989. It might also wish to decide on a new topic for the Joint Meetings or to request CPC to take that decision in consultation with ACC.

6. Mr. KAGAMI (Japan) said that the poor participation of CPC members in the Joint Meetings had been a problem for many years, despite the attendance of ACC members at a high level. That had been due primarily to the meetings being held at Geneva. Now that it had been decided to move the meeting site to New York, his delegation urged Member States to attend the Joint Meetings at a high level.

## AGENDA ITEM 3

### Basic programme of work of the Council for 1989 and 1990 (E/1989/1 and Add.1)

7. The PRESIDENT read out paragraph 2 (*l*) of Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/77, concerning arrangements by the President for consultations with members of the Council on the draft programme of work and provisional agenda and on the allocation of agenda items. Following informal consultations with members of an enlarged Bureau, consisting of representatives of all groups participating in the Council, much progress had been achieved in the formulation of a basic programme of work for the Council for 1989. However, since some areas of divergence still remained, it had not been possible to submit to the Council at the current meeting a formal proposal by the Bureau. He therefore drew attention to a non-paper circulated earlier that day, which reflected the areas on which there was agreement and included, in square brackets, questions which required further consideration.

8. In connection with questions for consideration at the second regular session of 1989, no agreement had been reached on item 6 entitled "Development and international economic co-operation" in so far as the integration of sub-items was concerned.

9. Under sub-item 7 (*a*), the question had arisen whether the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities should be undertaken at the second regular session of 1989, postponed to 1990, or postponed to a resumed second regular session of the Council in 1989, since not all inputs, especially those required under General Assembly resolution 42/196, were expected to be available during the second regular session. The decision in that respect would affect the decision regarding major policy themes for consideration at the second regular session of 1989, referred to in paragraph 6 (*b*) of the non-paper.

10. He drew attention to item 9 entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations" and to sub-item 12 (*c*) entitled "Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees", both of which were enclosed in square brackets.

11. Lastly, he drew attention to paragraphs 6 (*o*) to (*q*), which had been enclosed in square brackets.

12. Mr. BAKER (Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation) said that, with regard to paragraph 6 (*o*), the Secretariat was not in a position to highlight the major issues and recommendations emanating from intergovernmental bodies, all of whose decisions and discussions had to be treated as valid. It would be difficult to respond to the request other than by transmitting the agendas, full records of the discussions, and the full record of decisions and recommendations taken.

13. With regard to paragraph 6 (*q*), Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/77 contained a number of invitations to the organizations of the system to provide written inputs to the Council's deliberations. Such inputs included analytical summaries, contributions to various analyses of policy themes in the context of multi-year work programmes, and consolidated reports under various substantive items. From a managerial point of view, it was important to review such multiple requests, both to ensure a better use of the resources available, and to ensure that the reports submitted did not duplicate one another, but contributed to the basic thrust of the Council's work.

14. The organizations of the system had expressed readiness to play their part in the efforts made to revitalize the Council, and in particular to assist the Council in discharging more effectively its responsibilities for co-ordinating their activities under Article 63 of the Charter

of the United Nations. Under the auspices of ACC, they were examining the relevant provisions of resolution 1988/77 with a view to submitting proposals to the Council, in the context of the report to be submitted by the Secretary-General to the Council at its second regular session of 1989, concerning ways in which they could best respond to the Council's initiatives in the light of their past experience and the constraints which they faced.

15. The Director-General believed that effective co-ordination could only be achieved through the active co-operation and understanding of all concerned, and therefore suggested that the question of inputs from the organizations of the system could best be dealt with by the Council at its second regular session of 1989 on the basis of the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General. That report would, among other things, reflect the collective thinking of the United Nations system, and would address not only the question of inputs but the overall documentation needed in order for the Council to carry out its functions effectively.

16. Mr. SALARICH (Observer for Spain), responding to the statement that the Secretariat was not in a position to provide what was required under paragraph 6 (*o*), said his delegation felt strongly that the Secretariat should prepare the report in question. The review of documentation by the Secretariat should be preceded by a summary of issues, emphasizing the major ones, so as to help the Council to move towards the adoption of decisions. That was especially necessary in the case of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme. The Governing Council met until the end of June; accordingly, its report would be submitted to the Council only a short time before the beginning of the second regular session of 1989. When his delegation had made the proposal under discussion within the enlarged Bureau, it had become clear that it was supported by all members of the Bureau. His delegation insisted on the proposal, and urged other members of the Council to support it as well.

17. Mr. LABERGE (Canada) said his delegation was concerned at the risk of slippage with regard to sub-item 7 (*a*), concerning the comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development. Co-ordination of inputs to key activities of the Council became more difficult as the variety of those inputs increased. Nevertheless, it was important for the discussion to remain focused. The Council could not afford to run the risk of inadequate preparation, which led to time being wasted in protracted discussion and results not commensurate with the expectations of the Member States represented on the Council.

18. Mr. MARTIN (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) said that he supported the comments made by the representative of Spain. The Council's debate on the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in 1989 would be a difficult one, and it would be useful to have a paper prepared by the Secretariat highlighting the major issues contained in the report of the Governing Council and other governing bodies. It need not be a formal paper; his delegation would be satisfied with informal reports to assist Member States in assimilating the contents of the many reports with which they were faced.

19. The PRESIDENT proposed that the enlarged Bureau should resume its informal consultations during the course of the afternoon with a view to submitting to the Council the following morning a formal text for its approval.

20. Mr. TAI KAT MENG (Observer for Malaysia), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77, said the Group insisted that the Secretariat should respond adequately and effectively to all requests contained in the non-paper.

21. At the enlarged Bureau meeting, his delegation had made a proposal which, to its surprise, had not been reproduced in the non-paper, namely: either to schedule a resumed second regular session of 1989 of the Council in order to consider the remaining reports under operational activities for development, or to reach consensus that the comprehensive policy review should be dealt with at the second regular session of 1989 as an item for consideration by the Third (Programme and Co-ordination) Committee of the Council and not as a major policy theme.

22. Another omission from the non-paper concerned a proposal which he had made during the enlarged Bureau meeting, and which had been accepted, to devote one plenary meeting to a debate on the convening of a United Nations conference on environment and development in accordance with General Assembly resolution 43/196.

23. With regard to the comments made by the representative of Canada, while supporting that position, he felt that it would be useful for all of the reports requested from the Director-General in General Assembly resolutions 41/171 and 42/196 to be made available at the second regular session of the Council.

24. With regard to paragraph 6 (*b*), he requested that the entire subparagraph be enclosed in square brackets.

25. During the enlarged Bureau meeting, the Group of 77 had requested that some items allocated to the second regular session should instead be taken up at the first regular session if the relevant reports were available. He therefore requested the Secretariat to state when the members of the Council could expect to receive the reports of the Committee on Natural Resources and the Commission on Transnational Corporations.

26. Mr. STOBY (Secretary of the Council), responding to the points raised by the representative of Malaysia, said that the Council's attention had already been drawn to the question of when the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities should be undertaken. The non-paper before the Council was a faithful reflection of the agreement reached by the delegations that had participated in the informal consultations held the previous evening.

27. The report of the Committee on Natural Resources could be made available by 28 April, and the report of the Commission on Transnational Corporations could be made available by 10 May.

28. With regard to the reports to be submitted to the Council for consideration at its second regular session under sub-items 10 (*c*), (*d*), and (*e*), as listed in document E/1989/1, it would not be possible to submit them at the first regular session.

29. Mr. SALARICH (Observer for Spain), speaking on behalf of the 12 States members of the European Community, said that the question of the comprehensive policy review of operational activities would clearly have to be considered further in informal consultations. The Twelve continued to regard the review as a major policy theme. Sufficient substantive documentation would be available in time for consideration of the matter at the second regular session, and it was important that the review should be carried out on a triennial basis. As the Secretary had indicated, the non-paper before the Council was indeed a

faithful reflection of the agreement reached as a result of the informal consultations held the previous day. It therefore was hard to understand why the Group of 77 was now expressing reservations with regard to paragraph 6 (*b*) of the non-paper.

30. Mr. VARGAS (Brazil) said that his delegation supported the suggestion made by the observer for Malaysia concerning the part of the non-paper which related to General Assembly resolution 43/196. Moreover, it considered the themes listed in paragraph 6 (*b*) very limited. The Council should address themes of economic and social relevance to all countries. Consequently, pending in-depth consideration of Council resolution 1988/77, paragraph 6 (*b*) should remain in square brackets.

31. Mr. ELGHOUAYEL (Tunisia), referring to the comprehensive policy review of operational activities, said that the question was whether the Secretariat would be able to make the additional effort required in order to ensure that the relevant reports were issued early enough—for consideration during the last week of the Council's second regular session, perhaps. There was no question of deferring the review to another year.

32. Mr. WOLFF (Colombia) said that his delegation wished to request that the question of economic and social development be included among the major policy themes.

33. The PRESIDENT, after a procedural discussion in which Mr. LABERGE (Canada), Mr. SALARICH (Observer for Spain), speaking on behalf of the 12 States members of the European Community, Mr. MARTIN (United Kingdom), Mr. TAI KAT MENG (Observer for Malaysia), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77, and Ms. GROSS (United States of America) took part, suggested that any delegations wishing to discuss the matter under consideration further should meet informally that afternoon at 3 p.m.

*It was so decided.*

*The meeting rose at 11.45 a.m.*

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# 3rd meeting

**Friday, 10 February 1989, at 10.50 a.m.**

*President*: Mr. Kjeld Vilhelm MORTENSEN (Denmark)

E/1989/SR.3

## AGENDA ITEM 4

**Elections to subsidiary bodies of the Council and confirmation of representatives on the functional commissions (E/1989/2, E/1989/3/Rev.1 and Add.1, E/1989/L.1, E/1989/L.2)**

1. The PRESIDENT noted that the annotations to item 4 of the provisional agenda (E/1989/2) contained a list of the bodies for which elections had been postponed from previous sessions. There was also one vacant seat for African States on the Population Commission, which had been omitted from the list of bodies for which elections had been postponed. That seat was for a vacancy beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1992. Reference was made to it in the proposed basic programme of work of the Council for 1989 and 1990 (E/1989/1, para. 63). The Secretariat had been informed by the secretariat of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), on behalf of the Group of African States, that the Group had endorsed the candidacy of Uganda to fill that vacancy. In the absence of other candidates, he would take it that the Council wished to elect Uganda by acclamation.

*It was so decided.**

2. The PRESIDENT said that in the case of the Committee on Natural Resources, the Secretariat had been informed by the secretariat of the OAU, on behalf of the Group of African States, that the Group had endorsed the candidacy of Gabon to fill the vacancy. In the absence of other candidates, he would take it that the Council wished to elect Gabon by acclamation.

*It was so decided.**

3. The PRESIDENT said that for the remaining vacancies in subsidiary bodies of the Council for which elections had been postponed from previous sessions, the Secretariat had not been notified of any candidacies by the chairmen of the regional groups, or by the secretariat of the OAU for the African States. Unless there were candidatures for any of those vacancies, he proposed that elections to fill them be postponed to a future session.

*It was so decided.**

4. The PRESIDENT drew attention to documents E/1989/3/Rev.1 and Add.1, containing the names of the representatives of members of the functional commissions which had been submitted for confirmation by the Council since the close of the organizational session for 1988. If he heard no objection he would take it that the Council wished to confirm the nominations contained in those documents.

*It was so decided.**

## AGENDA ITEM 3

**Basic programme of work of the Council for 1989 and 1990 (*continued*) (E/1989/1 and Add.1)**

5. The PRESIDENT recalled that the Council had held extensive discussions in an informal meeting on the previous afternoon on the issues that appeared in square brackets in the non-paper dated 8 February 1989. Those consultations had produced some progress on the item of the agenda for the second regular session of 1989 entitled "Development and international economic co-operation". Agreement had been reached on the following clustering of sub-items: First Part, (*a*) Trade and development; Second Part, (*b*) Food and agriculture; Third Part, (*c*) Prepa-

*See decision 1989/104.

rations for the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade; Fourth Part, (*d*) Population and (*e*) Human settlements; Fifth Part, (*f*) Environment, (*g*) Desertification and drought and (*h*) Transport of dangerous goods; Sixth Part, (*i*) Effective mobilization and integration of women in development.

6. It had also been decided that the Council should devote one meeting to discussion in plenary of the question of the convening of a United Nations conference on environment and development, with action on the matter to be taken in the First (Economic) Committee. That would be reflected in a separate subparagraph under paragraph 6 of the non-paper.

7. He proposed that informal consultations should be resumed after the formal meeting, and that if they could produce no agreement on outstanding issues the Council should, at its formal meeting in the afternoon, approve the provisional agenda for its first regular session for 1989, on which agreement had already been reached, and on paragraph 5 of the non-paper relating to it, and approve a list of questions for the second regular session, but defer to the first regular session of 1989 of the Council a decision on the provisional agenda for its second regular session of 1989. The list of questions would be all the items and sub-items appearing on pages 4 and 5 of the Secretariat's non-paper, but without indication as to whether they would be taken up as items or sub-items and without any clustering of items. The Council would also, at the afternoon meeting, approve the agreed points in paragraph 6 of the non-paper relating to the second regular session of 1989, namely point (*a*) and points (*c*) to (*n*); take note of the list of questions for inclusion on the programme of the work of the Council for 1990, as contained in document E/1989/1/Add.1; and take a decision on the draft decision entitled "Discontinuation of the practice of constituting a Committee on Candidatures for elections to the International Narcotics Control Board".

*It was so decided.*

8. Mr. LABERGE (Canada), recalling the Chairman's statement that the Council had decided to devote one plenary meeting to discussion of the question of the convening of a United Nations conference on environment and development, with action to be taken in the First (Economic) Committee, proposed that paragraph (*m*) of the non-paper of 8 February 1989 should be deleted.

9. Mr. VARGAS (Brazil) said that nothing precluded discussion of the environment in the First (Economic) Committee. Subparagraph (*m*) could be retained and a sentence added on devoting one plenary meeting of the Council to the issue of the conference.

10. The PRESIDENT suggested that that matter should be discussed in the subsequent informal consultations.

*It was so decided.*

*The meeting rose at 11.10 a.m.*

# 4th meeting

**Friday, 10 February 1989, at 4.25 p.m.**

*President*: Mr. Kjeld Vilhelm MORTENSEN (Denmark)

E/1989/SR.4

## AGENDA ITEMS 2, 3 AND 5

### Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (*concluded*) (E/1989/2, E/1989/39)

### Basic programme of work of the Council for 1989 and 1990 (*concluded*) (E/1989/1 and Add.1, E/1989/L.8)

### Provisional agenda for the first regular session of 1989 and related organizational matters (E/1989/L.8)

DRAFT DECISION I

1. The PRESIDENT suggested that the Council take a decision on the points on which agreement had been reached in informal consultations and give further consideration to those on which agreement had still to be reached. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council approved the list of items for the first regular session of 1989 of the Economic and Social Council and the allocation of items contained in document E/1989/L.8.

*It was so decided.**

2. Mr. KAGAMI (Japan), referring to the list of items to be considered at the Council's second regular session of 1989, and more specifically item 11, entitled "Co-operation for natural disaster reduction and special economic and humanitarian assistance", said that he was not in favour of combining former items 11 and 12 into one. Following his consultations with various interested countries referred to in the non-paper considered at the previous meeting, he wished to make two proposals to resolve the issue. The first involved retaining item 11 as originally worded: "Co-operation for natural disaster reduction" and dispensing with item 12, except for subparagraph (*c*) thereof which would be considered as a separate item in plenary meeting. As for subparagraphs (*a*) and (*b*), a new subparagraph could be added after paragraph 6 (*q*), indicating that the Council would hear oral reports on special assistance to Mozambique and on the progress made in the implementation of General Assembly resolutions on humanitarian assistance to various countries. If that solution was not acceptable to members of the Council, item 11 could be retained as proposed above and item 12 could be made to refer exclusively to humanitarian assistance. Subparagraph (*a*) (Special programmes of economic assistance) would then be considered in plenary meeting.

*See decision 1989/101.

3. Mr. SALARICH (Observer for Spain), speaking on behalf of the European Community, said that the first proposal was unacceptable. The Community needed a little time to study the second proposal.

4. The PRESIDENT, following consultations between the representative of Japan and the observer for Spain, proposed that item 11, entitled "Co-operation for natural disaster reduction", should be retained and should include subparagraphs (*a*) (International decade for natural disaster reduction) and (*b*) (International strategy for the fight against locust and grasshopper infestation, particularly in Africa), and that there should be a new item 12, entitled "Special economic and humanitarian assistance", which would include two subparagraphs: (*a*) Special programmes of economic assistance and (*b*) Humanitarian assistance. Item 12 in document E/1989/L.8 would become item 13: "Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees".

5. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the wording of new paragraphs 11, 12 and 13 and the list of items for the second regular session of 1989 of the Council were adopted.

*It was so decided.**

6. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt paragraph 5 of draft decision I on the inclusion in the agenda of its first and second regular sessions of an item on the special session of the General Assembly devoted to international economic co-operation, in particular to the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries, to be held in 1990.

*It was so decided.**

7. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council adopted paragraphs 6 (*e*)-(*l*) and (*n*)-(*s*) of draft decision I.

*It was so decided.**

8. Mr. PAOLILLO (Uruguay), referring to paragraphs 6 (*a*)-(*d*) and (*m*), noted on behalf of the Group of 77 that subparagraph (*b*) referred to Council resolution 1988/77 while running counter to its provisions. The resolution in question dealt with the procedures and sources to be used in selecting major policy themes which, according to the resolution, must be chosen on the basis of a work programme derived, *inter alia*, from previously established priorities. Subparagraph (*b*), however, did not raise the question of those prior procedures and threatened to undermine the Council's credibility when the purpose of resolution 1988/77 was precisely to revitalize the Council. His delegation proposed that, rather than delete subparagraph (*b*), the Council should combine it with subparagraph (*c*) to form a single subparagraph which read as follows:

> "To decide, pursuant to paragraph 2 (*a*) (ii) of Council resolution 1988/77, on a multi-year work programme, on the basis of which major policy themes may be selected, and which should include, *inter alia*, the following major policy themes: comprehensive policy review of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system; environment and development; revitalization of the Economic and Social Council; and natural disaster reduction;".

9. The new text would offer three advantages. First, it would better meet the concerns of delegations that wanted certain policy themes to be mentioned. Secondly, it would make it possible to incorporate new themes later, as needed. Lastly, the new text would be in keeping with the provisions of Council resolution 1988/77.

10. Mr. TAI KAT MENG (Observer for Malaysia), speaking also on behalf of the Group of 77, said that he could not accept the proposal by the representative of Uruguay and requested that paragraph 6 (*b*) be deleted.

11. Mr. SALARICH (Observer for Spain), while thanking the representative of Uruguay for his efforts to find a compromise solution, said that he continued to believe that his delegation's earlier proposal with regard to subparagraph (*b*) would solve the problem. He was nevertheless prepared to study the Uruguayan proposal because he felt that it contained the elements of a consensus.

12. Mr. WOLFF (Colombia) said that subparagraphs (*b*) and (*c*) in their current form ran counter to the provisions of Council resolution 1988/77 and that the proposal made by the representative of Uruguay was acceptable but perhaps incomplete. The following themes should be added to the list of major policy themes in subparagraph (*b*): eradication of poverty in the developing countries, transfer of resources, the external debt question and trade and protectionism. Thus supplemented, the proposal by the representative of Uruguay would be an excellent basis for compromise.

13. Mr. ELGHOUAYEL (Tunisia) said that it was difficult for the Council to take a decision on the proposal by the representative of Uruguay at a moment's notice. He therefore proposed that the meeting be suspended for a few minutes to enable delegations to hold constructive consultations on the question and thus save time.

*The meeting was suspended at 5.10 p.m. and resumed at 5.50 p.m.*

14. The PRESIDENT recalled the proposal by the representative of Uruguay to combine paragraphs 6 (*b*) and (*c*). Noting that it had not been possible to reach agreement on the proposal, he suggested that the question be deferred to the first regular session.

15. Mr. TAI KAT MENG (Observer for Malaysia), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77, said that the Group had considered the proposal by Uruguay very carefully and that, in the interest of a compromise solution, it could accept the proposal provided that the interrelated themes of monetary and financial questions, international trade, foreign debt and development were added. Paragraph 6 (*d*) should also be deleted and replaced by wording based on paragraph 2 (*f*) (vii) of Council resolution 1988/77.

16. Mr. SALARICH (Observer for Spain), speaking on behalf of the member States of the European Community, said that, although the new themes proposed by the observer for Malaysia on behalf of the Group of 77 were interesting, their inclusion should be given careful consideration and such consideration had been impossible because the proposal had been made only minutes before the closure of the organizational session. He therefore wished to make a counter-proposal to delete paragraphs 6 (*a*) and (*b*) and add at the end of paragraph 6 (*c*) the phrase "taking into account the different views expressed by delegations at the organizational session".

17. Mr. LABERGE (Canada) agreed that the inclusion of the new themes proposed by the observer for Malaysia

*See decision 1989/101.

on behalf of the Group of 77 should be given careful consideration. Since it was too late to do that, he supported the proposal to defer consideration of subparagraphs (*a*)-(*d*) and (*m*) to the first regular session of the Council. Much work had already been done at the organizational session, but a substantive debate at that late hour would not be fruitful.

18. Mr. VIK (Norway) endorsed the views expressed by the representative of Canada. Furthermore, since a multi-year work programme was involved, he regretted that the new priority themes proposed were purely economic in nature and that social and humanitarian themes had been overlooked. It was unfortunate that agreement had not been possible, but the only solution was to defer consideration of the question to the first regular session of the Council.

19. Mr. ELGHOUAYEL (Tunisia) asked whether the objection raised by the representative of Norway also applied to the agenda proposed for the first regular session.

20. Mr. VIK (Norway) said that that was not the case and that he had no objections whatsoever to the agenda of the first regular session. Since the Council was currently considering themes to be included in a multi-year work programme, however, he felt that social and humanitarian questions, which were all too often neglected, could not be ignored.

21. Mr. TYSON (United States of America) endorsed the proposal made by the observer for Spain on behalf of the European Community and said that, if that proposal was not adopted, he could support the proposal by Canada. He requested that the proposal by the observer for Spain be considered.

22. The PRESIDENT recalled that there were two proposals to be considered: first, the proposal by Canada, endorsed by Norway and by himself, to defer consideration of the question to the first regular session and, secondly, the proposal by Spain, endorsed by the representative of the United States.

23. Mr. WOLFF (Colombia) pointed out that the proposal made by the observer for Malaysia on behalf of the Group of 77 was not new: the proposed themes were the subject of constant debate. The proposal therefore seemed perfectly reasonable and was very important to the Group of 77.

24. Mr. SALARICH (Observer for Spain), speaking on behalf of the member States of the European Community, agreed that the priority themes proposed by the Group of 77 were not at all new; what was new was the fact that the Group was making a substantive proposal only minutes before the end of the debate, whereas such a proposal should be given in-depth consideration by the Council. He was therefore maintaining his proposal but would, if necessary, support the President's proposal to defer consideration of the question to the first regular session of the Council.

25. Mr. TAI KAT MENG (Observer for Malaysia) recalled that it was only by making a major concession that he had been able, on behalf of the Group of 77, to accept the proposal by Uruguay. He had proposed priority themes only after making a careful choice and in order to meet other parties' concerns to identify priority themes of a multi-year work programme. Those themes were not new and were those about which members of the Group of 77 were most concerned.

26. Mr. PAYTON (New Zealand) endorsed the President's proposal that, owing to lack of time, consideration of the question should be deferred to the first regular session of the Council.

27. Mr. KAGAMI (Japan) endorsed the proposal by the observer for Spain. He noted that the proposal by the Group of 77 did not have the support of all delegations and he therefore favoured deferring consideration of the question to the first regular session of the Council.

28. Mr. ELGHOUAYEL (Tunisia) said that, since the organizational session had been very fruitful and the question at issue was an important one, the search for a solution was surely worth an extra quarter of an hour of the Council's time.

29. Mr. BARRETTO (Brazil) agreed that an extra effort should be made. He requested that the Council limit itself to paragraphs 6 (*b*) and (*c*) since paragraph 6 (*a*) dealt with an entirely different question.

30. The PRESIDENT, noting the absence of any agreement, moved on to paragraph 6 (*t*) on strengthening North-South co-operation in the field of informatics. It was his understanding that some delegations wanted further information, and he therefore recommended that the Council take note of the subparagraph and defer consideration of it to the first regular session.

*It was so decided.**

31. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt paragraph 7 of draft decision I.

*It was so decided.**

DRAFT DECISION II

32. The PRESIDENT said that the Council should take action on draft decision II: "Discontinuation of the practice of constituting a Committee on Candidatures for elections to the International Narcotics Control Board". If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft decision.

*It was so decided* (decision 1989/102).

DRAFT DECISION III

33. The PRESIDENT said that draft decision III was entitled "Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination". If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft decision.

*It was so decided* (decision 1989/103).

34. The PRESIDENT announced that he was suspending the meeting to give the Council a last chance to reach agreement on paragraph 6 by means of further informal consultations.

*The meeting was suspended at 6.20 p.m. and resumed at 6.40 p.m.*

35. The PRESIDENT said that it had not been possible to solve the remaining problems. He suggested that the Vice-President in charge of coordinating informal consultations, the representative of Uruguay, should organize

*See decision 1989/101.

informal consultations at some point before the beginning of the first regular session of the Council.

*It was so decided.*

36. The PRESIDENT explained that the document (E/1989/L.8) considered at the current meeting had been distributed in English only because there had not been time to have it translated into the other official languages of the Council.

37. Mr. BOUR (France) regretted that it had not been possible to have the document in question translated into the other official languages, particularly French. The exceptional circumstances of the moment had forced the Council to consider the document in English only, but that state of affairs must not be allowed to create a precedent.

### *Closure of the session*

38. The PRESIDENT thanked the members of the Council and declared the organizational session for 1989 closed.

*The meeting rose at 6.45 p.m.*

# ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
## FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF 1989

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## Summary records of the 5th to 16th plenary meetings, held at Headquarters, New York, from 2 to 24 May 1989

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# 5th meeting

**Tuesday, 2 May 1989, at 10.25 a.m.**

*President*: Mr. Kjeld Vilhelm MORTENSEN (Denmark)

E/1989/SR.5

***Opening of the session***

1. The PRESIDENT declared the first regular session of 1989 of the Economic and Social Council open.

**AGENDA ITEM 1**

**Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (E/1989/30, E/1989/71, E/1989/L.10/Rev.1, E/1989/L.11 and Add.1)**

2. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider document E/1989/30, containing the provisional agenda for the first regular session drawn up on the basis of Council decision 1989/101. A request had been received from the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee of the Whole for the Special Session of the General Assembly in 1990 Devoted to International Economic Co-operation, in particular to the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, to be held in 1990, to address the Council on the work of the Committee. The Bureau of the Council was of the view that the request could be accommodated without adding a new item to the agenda, bearing in mind the provisions of General Assembly decision 43/460. Accordingly, it proposed that the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee should speak under agenda item 1.

3. Mr. ARABIAT (Jordan), supported by Mr. MUNTASSER (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) and Mr. YOSSIF (Iraq), proposed that under agenda item 1 the Council should take up the question of emergency assistance to Democratic Yemen in the wake of the recent devastating floods in that country.

4. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objections, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the agenda as contained in document E/1989/30, with the addition of the statement by the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee and the inclusion of the question of emergency assistance to Democratic Yemen.

*It was so decided.**

5. The PRESIDENT drew attention to the note by the Secretariat on the status of documentation for the first regular session (E/1989/L.10/Rev.1) and to the proposed schedule of work drawn up by the Secretariat (E/1989/L.11, annex). After reviewing the Secretariat's proposals, the Bureau had proposed some modifications and made other suggestions; its proposals were contained in document E/1989/L.11/Add.1. The organization of work also needed to be further modified at a future meeting in the light of the decisions just taken.

6. He drew attention to the Council's procedures and practices concerning statements in exercise of the right of reply. Bearing in mind rule 46 of the rules of procedure, the Bureau recommended that whenever two meetings were scheduled on one day to consider the same item, statements in exercise of the right of reply should be made at the end of the day; all delegations should be limited to two interventions per item at a given meeting, with five minutes for the first intervention and three minutes for the second.

7. Mr. CASAJUANA (Observer for Spain) said that, since many members of the Council were concerned with both non-governmental organizations and social questions, it might be advisable, following customary practice, not to hold meetings of the Second (Social) Committee which would overlap with the plenary meetings of the Council. According to the proposed schedule of work, the Council was to discuss the report on non-governmental organizations in plenary meeting on the morning of 10 May, while the Second (Social) Committee would be discussing questions relating to women.

8. Mr. STOBY (Secretary of the Council) said that the practice of the Council at its first regular session had been to ensure that the Second (Social) Committee would not meet at the same time that a social issue was being discussed in a plenary meeting. However, since the item on

*See decision 1989/161.

non-governmental organizations had never been considered to be a social question, the Secretariat had proceeded on the same basis as it had in the past in drawing up the proposed schedule of work.

9. Mr. RAVEN (United Kingdom) said that he supported the comments made by the observer for Spain.

10. Mr. STOBY (Secretary of the Council) suggested that, in view of the concerns expressed by the observer for Spain and the representative of the United Kingdom, the Council could take up the question of non-governmental organizations in the afternoon of 10 May.

11. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objections, he would take it that the Council approved the proposals on the organization of work as contained in document E/1989/L.11 in the light of the modifications and suggestions made by the Bureau in document E/1989/L.11/Add.1 and bearing in mind the further modifications just proposed.

*It was so decided.**

REQUESTS BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO BE HEARD BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (E/1989/71)

12. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider requests submitted by non-governmental organizations in Category I consultative status to be heard by the Council or its Committees in connection with items on the Council's agenda. The Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, acting in accordance with Council resolution 1296 (XLIV) and rule 84 of the Council's rules of procedure had met on 1 May to review the requests to be heard. The Committee's report appeared in document E/1989/71. If he heard no objections, he would take it that the Council decided to recommend that the organizations listed in paragraph 2 of the Committee's report should be heard on the agenda items indicated.

*It was so decided.**

13. Mr. AHMED (Under-Secretary-General for International Economic and Social Affairs) said that the world economy was facing a slow-down in 1989 which would further aggravate the situation of the heavily indebted developing countries. While GDP growth in developing countries would be higher than in developed market economies, growth in per capita income would continue to lag behind, resulting in further widening of the income gap.

14. The report on the world social situation which was before the Council (E/CN.5/1989/2) outlined the social consequences of the severe economic setbacks which many developing countries had experienced in recent years. Cuts in governmental expenditures in health, education and other social sectors had not only sharply reduced living standards, but would also affect longer-term development prospects. The convening of a special session of the General Assembly in 1990 devoted to international economic co-operation and the formulation of a new international development strategy for the next decade would further the adoption of policies and measures to revive growth and development in the world economy.

15. Another important issue dealt with in the report was the changing role of the family and closely related issues, including the participation and integration of women into development and questions of equity between men and women.

16. The environment had emerged as a global concern, with the problems of toxic wastes, the depletion of the ozone layer and climate change. The Conference on Environment and Development to be held in 1992 would provide a new impetus to the quest for a global pattern of sustainable and sustained development.

17. The report also endeavoured to identify the socio-economic implications of momentous and rapid technological changes. A highly skilled and sophisticated workforce capable of adapting to new technologies would be increasingly central to modernization and development. Human resources development would thus be a major challenge to policy makers in the coming years.

18. Regional conflicts and tensions among great Powers were subsiding, opening up new possibilities for disarmament and arms control and releasing resources for peaceful development. International co-operation in combating drug abuse, terrorism and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) had increased, and problems of migrant workers and refugees were receiving growing international attention.

19. A number of subsidiary bodies of the Council had met during 1989. The Statistical Commission, at its session in February, had expressed satisfaction at the progress made in the ongoing revisions of the United Nations System of National Accounts (SNA), and had adopted the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities, Revision 3. Progress had also been noted in the work relating to links between the System of National Accounts and the System of Balances of the National Economy used by centrally planned economies. The Commission had identified other important areas which should receive more attention, including statistics in services and the environment and qualitative and quantitative indicators of development. It had reaffirmed the central role of the United Nations Statistical Office in the international statistical system and the value of its work in disseminating statistics, developing statistical methods and promoting co-ordination.

20. The Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, at its meeting in February 1989, had recommended consultative status for 48 organizations and had deferred consideration of the applications of four others to its next session. Of the 10 applications deferred from its 1987 session, the Committee had recommended five for consultative status and deferred the other five again.

21. The Committee on Natural Resources at its eleventh session had decided that at its twelfth session it would focus on energy issues and had called for a number of reports in that area. It had also endorsed an extensive work programme for the Secretariat for the next biennium.

22. Miss ANSTEE (Director-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna, Under-Secretary-General for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, Co-ordinator of United Nations Drug Control-related Activities) said that the international political climate was increasingly supportive of new efforts to achieve sustainable and equitable development. The initiatives taken to reduce super-Power tension had greatly strengthened the United Nations in all areas of international co-operation. The new atmosphere had also made possible the emergence of new energies in the quest for solutions to the major social problems which

*See decision 1989/161.

persisted throughout the world. It was now recognized that the approaches which made up social policy were not merely of secondary interest, but were part of a central strategy.

23. Social development could no longer be ignored or relegated to second place. Any solution to the most pressing global problems which faced humanity—such as the weakening of the ozone layer and the greenhouse effect, or the AIDS pandemic—would involve not only technical, scientific and economic adjustments, but also changes in social perceptions and behaviour.

24. Illegal drug trafficking was another area in which social adjustments were required. In that context, she drew attention to the adoption by consensus in 1988 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.[1] Wide application of the Convention would be of significant help in coping with the world-wide menace of illicit drug trafficking. It was heartening to note the growing participation of the specialized agencies and other entities of the United Nations system in that task, as reflected in the statement of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination contained in document E/1989/72.

25. The response by the United Nations to social problems had been and would continue to be its principal claim to esteem on the part of the world's peoples. While its contributions to peace-keeping and certain areas of global economic relations were not to be underestimated, it was in social development that the United Nations had been most successful in raising issues, identifying causes and suggesting solutions. It had done so in dealing with the problems faced by children, women, the elderly and other vulnerable sections of the population.

26. A notable achievement of the United Nations in recent years had been the establishment of a body of comprehensive policy instruments in the social field with which the Council was well acquainted. Along with other international programmes, those documents provided the framework for a global social development strategy.

27. Turning to the future international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade (see General Assembly resolution 43/182), she said that the strategy should be prepared with a certain purpose in view, namely, to support the realization of the international community's agreed objectives with regard to women, vulnerable groups, crime prevention and criminal justice, narcotic drugs and other social issues.

28. If the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women[2] were not implemented during the coming decade, the international development strategy would be an empty one. Evidence from national and United Nations sources indicated that progress towards women's equality had slowed markedly during the 1980s, largely as a result of the prolonged global economic crisis. Yet women had facilitated adjustment by entering the labour force in unprecedented numbers, usually in low-paying jobs, while continuing to manage their households. The linkages between women's advancement and development had been apparent for some time but had often been considered unimportant or had been ignored. Nevertheless, any serious effort to incorporate social policy into the global development agenda must emphasize the advancement of women as a means of achieving development, rather than as an end in itself.

29. She welcomed the conclusions reached with regard to the new international development strategy at the recent sessions of the functional commissions of the Council, particularly the recommendations of the Commission for Social Development. The Commission had urged that the strategy should emphasize the relationship between social policies and economic development.

30. The United Nations Office at Vienna (UNOV) sought to translate all those ideas into action, having been given special responsibilities for helping to formulate the strategy's social aspects. A paper on the social dimensions of the strategy had already been submitted to a working group on the strategy established by the Committee for Development Planning and had also been used by the Commission for Social Development at its thirty-first session. If United Nations development efforts were to succeed, however, social policies, goals and strategies must become an integral part of national development plans and programmes. To that end, the Office had sought closer substantive links with UNDP: at the latter's suggestion, the Office had prepared a programme advisory note and a draft global social project to develop a workable approach to institution-building in the social area. UNDP had also suggested that the Office should co-ordinate information and studies on social issues to provide background documentation for the Programme's round-table meetings of donors.

31. The work of the United Nations Office at Vienna could be described as innovative but professionally sound. Unfortunately, much energy still had to be spent in securing resources, particularly in view of the growing number of tasks the Office was being asked to carry out. There was in fact a limit to what could be done with available resources, and that limit had been reached. The Office required more support for central management if United Nations activities in the area of social policy and development were to be coherent. Some progress had been made in securing extrabudgetary resources, and she particularly welcomed the recent increases in contributions to the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control, which had enabled the Fund to expand its programme considerably. However, the special nature of extrabudgetary funds made them unsuitable for functions that ought to be covered by the Organization's regular budget.

32. Since taking up her functions at Vienna, it had been her firm intention to reverse the trend in the United Nations of paying less attention to social issues and to implement fully the Secretary-General's decision regarding the central role of UNOV in the social sphere. The fact that UNOV had been asked to assist in the preparation of the new international development strategy was an important step in that direction. The Office was determined to carry out that important task successfully, and it looked to the Council for continued policy guidance and support.

## AGENDA ITEM 2

### Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (E/1989/42 and Add.1-3, E/1989/48)

33. Mr. MARTENSON (Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights) welcomed the measures being taken by the Council to strengthen and enhance its capacity to perform its mandated functions and said he was certain that

United Nations activities in the field of human rights would benefit greatly from that revitalization.

34. The realization of the international society envisioned in the Charter of the United Nations was dependent upon a complex web of issues and relationships, at the heart of which lay human rights, for without respect for the fundamental rights of all, multilateral endeavours could not hope to succeed. There had been many positive developments throughout the world with respect to human rights during the past year, including a renewed commitment to human rights by Governments, the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations. Human rights violations were increasingly coming under scrutiny, often with the co-operation of the authorities. The report of the Commission on Human Rights on its forty-fifth session (E/1989/20) accurately reflected the international community's current preoccupations in that area. The work accomplished by the Commission at that session would provide a strong impetus to United Nations efforts to promote and protect human rights throughout the world.

35. In the legislative field, the Commission had adopted the draft Convention on the Rights of the Child (E/CN.4/1989/29 and Corr.1 and 2), which the Council was soon to consider. It had also adopted and submitted to the Council a draft second optional protocol (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1987/20) to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.[3] Finally, it had taken steps to strengthen the United Nations human rights machinery.

36. He then provided an overview of the other matters which the Commission had considered during its forty-fifth session, including the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development[4] and the provision of advisory services and technical assistance in the field of human rights, which had involved co-operation with UNDP, and the OAU. As the programme of advisory services was an important component of the United Nations system's operational activities for development, he planned to ensure that the Centre for Human Rights participated actively in the work of the Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions. However, the activities carried out under the Centre's technical assistance programme could complement, but never replace, actual investigations of alleged human rights violations, nor did participation in the programme exempt any country from review or investigation by human rights bodies.

37. Information and education about human rights were essential and were major priorities of the United Nations. Throughout 1988, major efforts had been undertaken by Governments, the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations to commemorate the fortieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[5] culminating in the launching of the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights in December of that year. The World Campaign sought to foster an awareness of human rights among all countries, thereby creating a universal culture of human rights. A major goal of the Campaign was to dispel false and arbitrary perceptions which encouraged racism and racial discrimination. The Campaign would be carried out by the Centre with the assistance of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the United Nations Department of Public Information of the Secretariat and would endeavour to involve all Member States as well as research institutions, the academic community, the media, concerned individuals and, above all, non-governmental organizations. In that connection, he drew attention to resolution 1989/54 of the Commission on Human Rights, which voiced support for the co-ordinating role of the Centre for Human Rights.

38. Racism and racial discrimination constituted an area of international life in which the Council played a key role, in keeping with the responsibilities given to the Organization under the Charter. Racism and racial discrimination were fundamental denials of basic human dignity which inevitably led to such further violations of human rights as torture, detention and illegal executions and threatened international stability. He recalled the many important instruments elaborated by the United Nations system to eliminate racism and *apartheid* and the events that had led to the proclamation of the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination. As Co-ordinator for the Decade, he had established contacts with all United Nations bodies at Headquarters which dealt with issues related to the Decade. He also attached high priority to improving contacts among various organizations within the system, and had thus raised the question of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade[6] with the executive heads of the specialized agencies at a meeting of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination at Geneva in 1988. The Committee would consider that question again in 1989 and intended to mobilize the resources of the entire system in the fight against racism.

39. The important contribution of non-governmental organizations to the Decade had been generally recognized by the United Nations. Those organizations played an important role in disseminating information relating to racism and influencing public opinion. Consequently, in his capacity as Co-ordinator, he had met periodically with representatives of those organizations to discuss their common struggle against racism and racial discrimination.

40. Another priority goal of the Programme of Action was to publicize the role of the United Nations in the fight against racism and to galvanize public support for the objectives of the Decade. In the context of the Organization's human rights programme, he had given new priority to collaborating more effectively with non-governmental organizations and other members of the human rights community in order to enhance activities relating to communication, information and education. In that connection, the Section on External Relations had been established within the Centre for Human Rights. He had also taken steps to strengthen the Centre's own Decade-related activities, which included seminars, workshops, training courses and publications which placed increased emphasis on the Decade.

41. He had met regularly with representatives of the media and had organized, in response to the General Assembly's request to the Secretary-General in its resolution 42/47, a global consultation on racism and racial discrimination, the report of which was contained in document E/1989/48.

42. The Centre had organized a seminar at Geneva in January on the effects of racism and racial discrimination on the social and economic relations between indigenous peoples and States. It was particularly noteworthy that a representative of an indigenous community had been elected as the rapporteur of that meeting. The report of the seminar was available to Council members. An international seminar was also to be held later in the year on

the rights of migrant workers, and he looked forward in that connection to the adoption by the General Assembly of an international convention on the protection of the rights of all migrant workers and their families. Finally, the Centre would focus attention on the causes of racism at a workshop to be held on factors contributing to that phenomenon.

43. As the documentation before the Council indicated, the Secretary-General had received information about a wide range of activities being undertaken by the international community in the context of the Second Decade. The fact that so many activities related directly to the elimination of *apartheid* was particularly encouraging. As those activities served to guide the Council in its formulation of suggestions to the General Assembly, it was important that they should be strengthened.

44. With regard to future activities, the strengthening of national legislation and institutions for the prevention of racism and the promotion of racial harmony might be of value. Priority should be given to the preparation of model legislative texts which could be used by national governments. Experts might then be able to help Governments adapt the models to their specific context. Finally, as part of the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights, suitable publicity and educational materials could be prepared.

45. In that connection, he intended to call a meeting of consultation at Geneva later in the year to consider the impact of education and information on racial harmony and tolerance among the general public and in primary and secondary schools in particular. The meeting would be attended by representatives of the United Nations and non-governmental organizations and other bodies having competence in that field.

*The meeting rose at 11.50 a.m.*

# 6th meeting

**Friday, 5 May 1989, at 10.40 a.m.**

*President*: Mr. Kjeld Vilhelm MORTENSEN (Denmark)

E/1989/SR.6

## AGENDA ITEM 1

### Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (*continued*) (E/1989/30, E/1989/L.12 and L.13)

1. Mr. AL-KHATANY (Saudi Arabia), supported by Mr. GALAL (Observer for Egypt) and Miss POIRET (France), proposed the addition of a new sub-item entitled "Emergency assistance to Djibouti" under item 1 of the agenda, in view of the devastation caused by recent floods in that country.

*The proposal was adopted without objection.**

MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL AT ITS SECOND REGULAR SESSION OF 1989

2. Mr. PAOLILLO (Uruguay) gave an account of the consultations he had held on the outstanding matters referred to the Council under paragraph 5 (*c*) of decision 1989/101, and introduced draft decision E/1989/L.12, representing the outcome of those consultations.

*The draft decision was adopted without objection* (decision 1989/105).

3. Mr. SALARICH (Observer for Spain), speaking on behalf of the twelve States members of the European Community, emphasized the importance that the Twelve attached to the adoption of a thematic approach to the work of the Council. The new procedure would make the Council's work more relevant in the eyes of Member States. The Twelve were pleased that the items originally included in document E/1989/L.8, submitted at the organizational session, had been selected as major policy themes, but they understood the question of the interrelated issues of money, finance, trade, external debt and development in a broader sense, one which included other economic areas and economic reforms.

4. After reminding the Council of paragraph 2 (*f*) (vii) of its resolution 1988/77, he welcomed the decision calling for the President to convene an open-ended task force to review all recurrent and other documentation. In the view of the Twelve, that task force should conduct separate reviews of the documentation pertaining to the social and economic fields, and to that end should have a balanced membership comprised of experts in both fields. Each section of the Council should be able to take decisions on its own documentation.

5. The Twelve had agreed to discuss regional co-operation in the facilitation of international trade under item 6 of the draft provisional agenda for the second regular session. That did not, however, imply that they accepted *a priori* the recommendations by the executive secretaries of the regional commissions.

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO THE SUDAN

6. Mr. LA MUNIÈRE (Director, Office for Emergencies in Africa) said that over the past few years the Sudan had been beset by a series of natural catastrophes and a civil war, causing some 2 million people in the southern and western parts of the country to flee their homes in search of food and security. The General Assembly at its forty-third session had adopted two resolutions on assistance to the Sudan, namely, resolutions 43/8 and 43/52. In resolution 43/8, the Assembly reaffirmed the need for the international community to respond fully to requests for emergency humanitarian assistance and for assistance in rehabilitation and reconstruction, and noted that the Secretary-General had already sent an inter-agency mis-

*See decision 1989/161.

sion to the Sudan to assess emergency conditions, while a UNDP/World Bank multi-donor flood recovery programme mission was also in the country to prepare a two-year reconstruction programme. A meeting held in Paris, in November 1988, to discuss the findings of the UNDP/World Bank mission had agreed on a programme initially providing $310 million to cover the costs of reconstruction. Because of the financial haemorrhage in the Sudan, however, and of problems in Khartoum resulting from the civil war, there had been fears that the relief assistance provided might simply drain away. It had therefore been decided that, before the programme could start, there must be signs that the civil war was coming to an end, or at least that serious negotiations had begun, and the Government must begin to put into effect the restructuring agreement negotiated with the World Bank. But conditions in the country had been extremely difficult, progress towards ending the war had been slow, the funds arranged through the World Bank had been held in abeyance, and little activity had taken place.

7. In recent days, however, the anti-Government rebels in the Sudan had proposed a cease-fire, and details were now being worked out with the Government. Action on the emergency flood recovery programme might, therefore, at last get under way. Any development would be reported to the Council at its second regular session.

8. In October 1988, the Secretary-General had submitted a report to the General Assembly (A/43/755) summarizing the Sudan's urgent humanitarian requirements and appealing for assistance totalling $73 million. Donor response had been generous, and over $60 million of the $73 million requested had quickly been made available. Because of the situation in the country, however, action on the Secretary-General's three-pronged plan had again been slow. By early 1989, the Secretary-General had come to realize that unless emergency supplies could be positioned in remote areas before they were cut off by the rains, the tragedy of 1988, in which over 100,000 people had died, would repeat itself. He had therefore proposed to the Sudanese Government a crash programme to deliver emergency food and medical supplies in sufficient quantities to tide the population over to the end of the year. A meeting held in Khartoum to discuss the Secretary-General's suggestion had unanimously adopted a plan of action calling for 120,000 tons of food and medical supplies to be pre-positioned in the south of the Sudan before the beginning of the rainy season, at a total cost of $132 million, of which $77 million had already been secured. It had been agreed that supplies would travel along "corridors of tranquillity" from the northern Sudan, Kenya, Uganda and Ethiopia. The plan had been put into operation immediately and the remaining $55 million in funding had been secured. Owing to a series of political and logistical problems, less than half the supplies envisaged had been in place by the end of April 1989. The recently announced cease-fire should, however, mean that enough food and medical supplies could still be put in place before the rains to avert a tragedy.

## Emergency assistance to Somalia

9. Mr. LA MUNIÈRE (Director, Office for Emergencies in Africa) said that, following the adoption of General Assembly resolution 43/206, the Secretary-General had dispatched a United Nations inter-agency mission to Somalia to assess the urgent humanitarian requirements of the accessible population in that country. The mission had also made a preliminary assessment of what was needed to facilitate a return to economic self-sufficiency for the people affected by the events in Somalia. Nine months after the events in the northern provinces, the situation still showed all the characteristics of an acute emergency. The mission had discussed with the Government the establishment of a mechanism to keep donors informed of the uses made of their contributions, and of any emergency plans agreed on. It had assessed the likelihood that international staff could work effectively and safely in the affected areas and had reviewed with the Government what machinery was needed to carry out the proposed emergency and rehabilitation activities.

10. The interim report of the mission outlined a programme of emergency assistance costing a total of $19.4 million, to meet the urgent needs of approximately 67,500 people. The Government of Somalia had established a three-man committee to manage and supervise all relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction activities; the Secretary-General had designated the Resident Co-ordinator in Somalia to co-ordinate all United Nations emergency relief efforts. In New York, the Office for Emergencies in Africa would remain the focal point for efforts to deal with the crisis. The mission had also strongly recommended a more substantial assistance programme, to be prepared at a later date once normal conditions had been restored.

11. The report of the mission would shortly be published as a General Assembly document. The Secretary-General hoped that the international community would give the proposed interim programme its full and generous support.

12. Mr. OSMAN (Somalia) said that he had listened with satisfaction to the preceding report, and was grateful to the Secretary-General and the United Nations inter-agency mission for having responded promptly to his Government's appeal in 1988.

13. Although the emergency assistance programme was intended to meet the needs of 67,500 displaced persons, his Government estimated that almost 1 million had been affected by the disaster. Furthermore, long-term reconstruction and rehabilitation needs should be borne in mind. The armed attacks had led to extensive loss of life and destruction of property; the transport and communication infrastructure had been disrupted, as had ongoing development projects. Clearly, therefore, a far more substantial economic assistance programme was needed. It was his understanding that such a programme would be worked out, and he urged all Member States to contribute generously.

## Emergency assistance to Democratic Yemen (E/1989/L.14)

14. Mr. ARABIAT (Jordan), introducing the draft resolution, entitled "Emergency assistance to Democratic Yemen" (E/1989/L.14), said that it called upon the international community to provide emergency assistance to Democratic Yemen in the wake of recent devastating floods which had left thousands homeless and disrupted the country's infrastructure. He hoped that the draft resolution would be adopted without a vote.

15. Mr. GALAL (Observer for Egypt), Mr. POOLOKASINGHAM (Sri Lanka), Mrs. CASTRO de BARISH (Observer for Costa Rica), Mr. MILINTACHINDA

(Thailand) and Miss POIRET (France) said that their delegations had joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DEVOTED TO INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION, IN PARTICULAR TO THE REVITALIZATION OF ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

16. Mr. ZEPOS (Greece), speaking as Chairman of the Preparatory Committee, said that the decision to convene a special session presented a new challenge to the international community. Economic problems occupied a central place on the world political agenda. International economic co-operation must be strengthened through multilateral channels, and the objectives of growth and development, particularly of the developing countries, must be restated.

17. The Bureau of the Preparatory Committee of the Whole had met with the Secretary-General, the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation and the President of the General Assembly, and had been assured of the full and close co-operation of the Secretariat and the timely preparation of the outline of the report, which would be available shortly. The Bureau had also circulated a "non-paper" which would enable delegations to formulate views on the agenda and the possible outcome of the session. Although responses to the "non-paper" had not yet been received, intense consultations on the subject would undoubtedly take place in the next three weeks. The objective of the Bureau's first session, scheduled to be held from 31 May to 2 June, would be to reach an understanding on the provisional agenda and organization of work of the special session.

18. Mr. BLANCA (Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation) reassured all Member States of the seriousness with which the Secretariat would participate in the preparation of the special session. Its political importance could not be overstated in view of the current world economic situation. The special session must lead to action by the United Nations and not simply provide a forum for discussion. The Secretariat was now in the process of preparing a preliminary document, to be made available on 15 May, which would incorporate information gathered at several recent meetings of organizations of the United Nations system. By the end of May, he hoped to have met informally with a number of delegations in order to learn their views on the document. A series of high-level international economic conferences to be held in the months ahead would provide further input. The Secretariat was also working closely with other United Nations departments and agencies, such as the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, which was preparing the draft for the future international development strategy.

19. In general, there was a growing concern with economic problems, and questions of co-operation were assuming greater prominence. That was a welcome development, as no progress was possible for a heavily indebted country.

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

20. Mr. SALARICH (Observer for Spain) asked when the report on transnational corporations would be available to the Council.

21. Mr. STOBY (Secretary of the Council) said that it would be available on 8 May, in time for consideration by the Council the following day.

22. Mr. SALARICH (Observer for Spain) requested the Bureau to verify whether it was in keeping with the Council's rules of procedure for it to consider an item if the documentation was not available sufficiently in advance.

23. Mr. PAYTON (New Zealand) said that he supported the comments by the observer for Spain and hoped that the Council would receive guidance from the Bureau at its next meeting.

24. The PRESIDENT said that the Bureau would look into the matter and report back to the Council at the next meeting.

*The meeting rose at 12.10 p.m.*

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# 7th meeting

**Monday, 8 May 1989, at 10.25 a.m.**

*President*: Mr. Kjeld Vilhelm MORTENSEN (Denmark)

E/1989/SR.7

## AGENDA ITEM 1

### Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (*continued*)

1. Sir Crispin TICKELL (United Kingdom) welcomed the Council's recent decision to make environmental issues a major theme at its second regular session of 1989. His Government had long been concerned that the steady increase in the release of so-called greenhouse gases into the atmosphere might cause the average global temperature to rise, with incalculable consequences for human society. Given the international nature of the problem, the States Members of the United Nations must work together, as they had in tackling the problem of damage to the ozone layer, to determine how to cope with the wider problem of global warming.

2. On 26 April 1989, the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom had held a seminar on the problem, which had been attended by persons from a wide cross-section of society, including scientists, industrialists, politicians and academics. The participants had agreed that, despite the uncertainties involved, prompt action must be taken by the international community.

3. His Government believed that there were, in fact, three main areas where action was required. The first related to the need for a framework in which to operate. In paragraph 10 of its resolution 43/53, the General Assembly had called for a comprehensive review and recommendations by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change with respect to the identification and strengthening of existing international legal instruments having a bearing on climate as well as elements for inclusion in a possible international convention on climate. It was to be hoped that the review, which was in progress, would draw on other work that had been done on the subject.

4. His Government believed that a simple framework or umbrella convention that would set out general principles or guidelines should be drawn up by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change as soon as possible, following the precedent set by the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, adopted on 22 March 1985. An effort should be made to incorporate specific protocols in the framework, following the precedent of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, adopted on 16 September 1987, which had been incorporated into the broader Vienna Convention. Arrangements could thus be worked out that were sufficiently flexible to permit rapid progress on problems that might otherwise prove intractable. It would, of course, be easier to determine which areas should be the subjects of specific protocols once the Intergovernmental Panel submitted its report to the Second World Climate Conference in 1990.

5. The second area requiring action related to institutions. Although there was no need to create new institutions, the challenge lay in determining how best to use existing ones, such as the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the World Climate Programme and the Intergovernmental Panel. The problem facing most of those institutions, and UNEP in particular, was a lack of support—especially financial support—from the international community. While UNEP needed strengthening, money alone would not suffice. The status of UNEP should be reviewed and consideration given to the possibility of converting it into a specialized agency, for without sufficient resources or status, it could hardly be expected to co-ordinate the environmental work done by other organizations.

6. The Intergovernmental Panel's report to the Second World Climate Conference would be of particular importance because it would lay the scientific basis for future international efforts in the area of climate. While the preparation of that report constituted the Panel's raison d'être, the Panel might be given a prolonged mandate, perhaps taking the form of an intergovernmental commission which would monitor the implementation of a global framework convention on climate. The new body would continue to report to WMO and UNEP, but also to one of the more central organs of the United Nations system, such as the Security Council, which might consider environmental issues from time to time under Article 34 of the Charter of the United Nations. A committee of the General Assembly might also be established to deal primarily with environmental matters. Although the work of most existing United Nations bodies and organizations had an environmental dimension, there was a need to consider whether the specific problems posed by global warming were addressed sufficiently.

7. The third and most difficult area requiring action related to the basis on which the international community would take action. The Intergovernmental Panel's report would be of critical importance in that regard. Consensus was required if Governments were to act together successfully to formulate policy. It must also be recognized that the problem of global warming was due largely to the industrialization process, and to the consumption of fossil fuels in particular. The older industrial countries must assume a leadership role by discouraging the further build-up of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. However, another important cause of global warming was changes in land use, especially deforestation, throughout the world. Once again, the industrialized countries must be ready to help the rest of the world. It was not necessary for all countries to follow the same path and make the same mistakes. Multilateral and bilateral assistance must be provided so that developing countries could leapfrog over the technologies which had caused the problem. The United Kingdom's own aid programme was placing a new emphasis on assistance in the area of forestry and the financing of studies to identify alternatives to chlorofluorocarbons. His Government was also prepared to help countries re-equip plants so that they could use chlorofluorocarbon-substitutes and to develop chloro-fluorocarbon-free industries. It was to be hoped that other countries would do likewise.

8. He concluded by noting that, as the Earth was the only planet man had, it must be passed on to future generations in good health. Man had evolved through his ability to adapt, and he must continue to do so if he was to survive. The United Nations had a central role to play in that effort.

9. Mr. NOGUEIRA-BATISTA (Brazil) welcomed the important statement made by the representative of the United Kingdom and asked whether other delegations might be given an opportunity to address the issues he had raised.

10. The PRESIDENT noted that environmental issues would be discussed during the second regular session of the Council. However, if delegations wished to discuss the topic during the current session, they would be given an opportunity to do so.

11. Recalling the request made at the 6th meeting of the Council to postpone consideration of the item on transnational corporations owing to the late issuance of the report of the Commission on Transnational Corporations, he said that many issues needed to be considered before a new date could be recommended. The Bureau did, however, recommend that the Council should postpone its consideration of the item in question.

*The meeting rose at 10.45 a.m.*

# 8th meeting

**Wednesday, 10 May 1989, at 3.15 p.m.**

*President*: Mr. Kjeld Vilhelm MORTENSEN (Denmark)

E/1989/SR.8

## AGENDA ITEM 3

### Non-governmental organizations

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (E/1989/40 and Corr.1)

1. Mr. GOLEMANOV (Bulgaria), drawing attention to the report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/1989/40 and Corr.1), recalled that the Committee ensured liaison between the Economic and Social Council and non-governmental organizations in the economic and social fields. In cases where the United Nations was too slow or non-committal, it enabled those organizations to establish a working relationship with Governments, to increase their leverage and thus to achieve the objectives that were important to all parties concerned. As a member and as Vice-President of the Committee, Bulgaria participated actively in its work. He welcomed the fact that, over the last several years, the Committee had been taking its decisions by consensus and in an atmosphere of accommodation, thereby ensuring the success of the most recent session.

2. The Committee had held consultations with the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council, during which the non-governmental organizations had been able to share their views with the members of the Committee, and it had made recommendations concerning applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification submitted by 61 organizations. It had also considered 73 quadrennial reports on the activities of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council and had discussed its future work.

3. With regard to the proposal concerning the elaboration of guidelines for the implementation of Council resolution 1296 (XLIV) by the members of the Committee when considering new applications for consultative status, he said that it would be premature or even unnecessary to introduce such guidelines. If the Committee sought to grant consultative status on the basis of essentially quantitative criteria, instead of the comprehensive qualitative criteria provided for in that resolution, its work might be harmed in that applications from organizations that were relatively younger or smaller, which was often the case of non-governmental organizations from regions that had previously been largely underrepresented, might be denied.

4. Resolution 1296 (XLIV) provided a fully adequate basis for the Committee's work, both in terms of procedure and in terms of criteria for granting consultative status. That opinion was substantiated by the fact that, over a period of nearly 10 years, the Committee had been able not only steadily to improve its efficiency but also to maintain consensus on all the decisions it had reached, a practice from which the Committee derived strength and that also ensured wide support for non-governmental organizations in consultative status. The Committee should continue to build upon the results achieved so far and continue to develop co-operation and constructive dialogue, in the interest of all parties concerned.

5. Mr. OUDOVENKO (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic) pointed out that non-governmental organizations were an important element in the achievement of universal consensus and in the solution of the global problems facing the world community. The atmosphere of understanding and co-operation which had prevailed at the Committee's latest session reflected the positive changes in the international climate and in the United Nations as a whole, as well as the growing recognition by Member States of the important role of non-governmental organizations and their valuable contribution to the activities of the United Nations.

6. The Ukrainian delegation supported the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs in its efforts to increase co-ordination and strengthen co-operation with the non-governmental organizations and to explore new avenues of communication between Member States, non-governmental organizations in consultative status and the Secretariat.

7. By working together to achieve the goals of the United Nations, Governments and non-governmental organizations would unquestionably help resolve many of the problems facing mankind. That had been aptly demonstrated by the various meetings organized by non-governmental organizations dealing with problems of concern to women in the shadow of the international conferences that had marked the United Nations Decade for Women and that had contributed significantly to the achievement of its objectives. By periodically organizing meetings of non-governmental organizations representing a wide variety of interests, it might even be possible to strengthen their activities on behalf of peace and social progress and to strengthen their co-operation.

8. An important step could be taken in that direction by extending the consultative relationship of the non-governmental organizations, in particular with respect to the Main Committees of the General Assembly, within an orderly framework based on the provisions of Council resolution 1296 (XLIV). Non-governmental organizations, in view of their knowledge and expertise, could greatly help in the formulation of plans and programmes of the United Nations, as well as in their implementation, and increased collaboration with non-governmental organizations in carrying out joint activities with the Secretariat, such as seminars, conferences and technical assistance and operational activities, would enhance the effectiveness, relevance and impact of those activities. The support and assistance of non-governmental organizations could do much to promote public understanding of the activities of the United Nations.

9. Mr. KOSENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the report of the Committee (E/1989/40 and Corr.1) gave one cause to ponder not only on the interaction between the non-governmental organizations and the United Nations, but also on the joint activities they

were undertaking to resolve the serious humanitarian problems of the present time.

10. The session of the Committee in 1989 had demonstrated that the objective criteria provided for in Council resolution 1296 (XLIV) enabled it to take constructive decisions in a spirit of compromise. Those criteria were also a good basis for evaluating the activities of the non-governmental organizations. His delegation would not object to seeking new means of strengthening the contribution which those organizations could make to the work of the United Nations by introducing more effective forms of co-operation between them and the United Nations, even though that would be a delicate undertaking to put it mildly. It would mean giving non-governmental organizations a greater voice in the bodies of the Organization without, however, weakening the action of that world body of sovereign States and nations and, what was more, while seeking to harmonize the initiatives taken by public opinion, as represented by those organizations, with the global activities of the intergovernmental organs belonging to the United Nations system.

11. In any event, there had been a definite increase in the influence of public opinion, through the non-governmental organizations, on the state and general atmosphere of international relations. Non-governmental organizations, being in direct contact with reality, were, in effect, in a very good position to point out human rights violations, to assist the disabled and to protect the environment, to mention only a few of their areas of interest.

12. Non-governmental organizations, indeed, had such experience that the idea of creating more efficient machinery by means of which international public opinion could influence the activities of the United Nations was entirely legitimate. Such a move should not, however, be limited to increasing the number and length of statements by representatives of non-governmental organizations at the meetings of different United Nations bodies.

13. Furthermore, more objective and precise methods of evaluating non-governmental organization involvement in activities furthering the goals of the United Nations needed to be devised, particularly in the case of organizations that did not have category I or II consultative status with the Economic and Social Council but were on the list. As such organizations were not required to submit any information whatsoever on their activities, it was virtually impossible at present to monitor them or even to have a clear idea of what they did.

14. The Commission on Human Rights and the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities were instances of fruitful co-operation between non-governmental organizations and United Nations bodies. There again, however, the important thing was not to increase the number of statements on the same topics but to co-ordinate action by different non-governmental organizations. The Committee should in future put more emphasis on matters of substance than on the technicalities of granting consultative status, and it could learn from the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council in that regard.

15. In closing, he emphasized the crucial part that non-governmental organizations could play in reinforcing an atmosphere of trust, understanding and co-operation, conducive to the humanization and democratization of international relations, between peoples and States. Governments and international public opinion could and must tirelessly promote the concept of priority for humanitarian values both to leaders and to the man in the street, using the human and intellectual resources of non-governmental organizations for that purpose. By so doing they would enhance the standing of the United Nations on the world stage and strengthen the new international order based on consensus between States and international public opinion.

16. Mrs. CASTRO de BARISH (Observer for Costa Rica) said that her country attached special importance to action by non-governmental organizations in support of the United Nations, and accordingly took a close interest in the work of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, which considered applications for consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.

17. Non-governmental organizations could make a still larger contribution to the work of the United Nations than they were already making. Given their knowledge and capacities, they could be of great assistance to the Organization in the formulation and execution of its plans and programmes by making the public aware of the resolutions and recommendations of the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council and, in general, of the activities of the United Nations system. Co-operation between non-governmental organizations and the Secretariat at the joint activity level could be stepped up, thereby making such activities more effective, relevant and forceful, and in certain cases also allowing the Organization to save money.

18. Non-governmental organizations were already giving the United Nations so much support that the Council ought to take up the proposal by the first Vice-President of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council to extend consultative status, allowing organizations to make use of it, *inter alia*, before the Main Committees of the General Assembly, subject to strict respect for Council resolution 1296 (XLIV). She also supported the idea of permitting all non-governmental organizations, with or without consultative status, to take part in conferences and events organized by the United Nations.

19. Co-operation between non-governmental organizations and the United Nations could also be enhanced by setting up a working group to conduct a general review of questions relating to the strengthening of co-operation between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations and to look into practical ways of strengthening the interaction between them in the study of global problems.

20. In that way, the non-governmental organizations would know that their contribution was appreciated. But, as paragraph 39 of the Committee's report (E/1989/40 and Corr.1) indicated, non-governmental organizations with members in South Africa must be required to provide clear and detailed information on their position as regards *apartheid* and their members in South Africa so that delays in the procedure for granting consultative status could be avoided. After all, any non-governmental organization applying for consultative status, whatever its field of activity, must be aware of United Nations activities relating to *apartheid* in South Africa.

21. Finally, she thanked the Committee's rapporteur and other members of the Secretariat for their promptness in issuing a corrigendum (E/1989/40/Corr.1) to paragraph 34 of the report. The effect of the corrigendum was to present more clearly her delegation's views on the quadrennial

report of the Inter-American Press Association, which she had not been able to consult before 1 May.

22. Mr. HAGMAJER (Observer for the World Federation of United Nations Associations), speaking as the President of the Conference on Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council, outlined the purposes of that Conference and said that relations between non-governmental organizations and the United Nations, which dated back to the birth of the Organization, had been marked in recent years by the fact that non-governmental organizations were turning their consultative status with subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council to greater advantage by making new kinds of contributions in the field of human rights, by winning increased acknowledgement of their activities at international conferences held under United Nations auspices, by winning the opportunity for non-governmental organizations to address the Main Committees of the United Nations General Assembly under certain conditions, and by expanding links with the Secretariat for information purposes.

23. However, less and less distinction was made between non-governmental organizations in consultative status, on the one hand, and national or local non-governmental organizations or groups, or even individuals, on the other hand. That situation prevented non-governmental organizations in consultative status from expressing their concerns effectively and gave the impression that access to the United Nations was no longer governed by Economic and Social Council resolution 1296 (XLIV).

24. The Conference followed with keen interest the work of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations and was grateful for the opportunity that it had been given in 1987 and again in 1989 to participate in informal consultations with the States members of the Committee. The general improvement in international relations and the new attitude towards multilateral co-operation had had a positive effect on the Committee's work, which had often been hampered by political motivations in the past. The Conference also welcomed the constructive spirit that had prevailed in the discussions in the Committee, the speed at which the work had been carried out, the Committee's understanding attitude towards the non-governmental organizations and the attention paid to the procedures established under Council resolution 1296 (XLIV).

25. It should be pointed out, however, that two human rights organizations had not been classified in the category that they wished to be classified in, even though some Committee members had felt that the two organizations in question met the criteria laid down in resolution 1296 (XLIV). That resolution was the very foundation of the relationship between the non-governmental organizations and the United Nations and should continue to be implemented as it stood. The Conference was therefore not convinced that it was necessary to set up a special working group, as indicated in paragraph 46 of the Committee's report (E/1989/40 and Corr.1).

26. The question of the relationship between non-governmental organizations and the United Nations was now much broader than the issue of consultative status. The increase in the number of non-governmental organizations, the broadening scope of their interests, the consolidation and expansion of their programmes and the improvement in communications techniques had led to a world-wide resurgence of non-governmental activities. It was now apparent that non-governmental organizations could undertake international projects more cheaply and more rapidly than governmental institutions, and that they could conduct public awareness campaigns on practically any issue or concern. They now had a stable place in global relations, even though they were not yet recognized by international law. The development of the relationship between non-governmental organizations and the United Nations was creating new challenges; it demanded from non-governmental organizations professionalism and expertise, and it required from the Secretariat more uniformity and harmonization of procedures and a better understanding of the special character of non-governmental organizations in consultative status. It also demanded broader acceptance by Member States of the role and potential of non-governmental organizations.

27. The presence of non-governmental organizations in the United Nations system had been formally recognized in numerous calls for co-operation contained in United Nations resolutions and other documents. However, that formal recognition did not necessarily lead to factual co-operation. There was still a tendency to treat non-governmental organizations as instruments rather than as creative partners. That tendency stemmed either from political motivations, or from a misunderstanding of the specific nature of non-governmental organizations. Member States must understand that the presence of non-governmental organizations at the United Nations reflected their willingness to contribute to the realization of United Nations goals and to assist Member States and the Secretariat. Negative attitudes towards non-governmental organizations were also observed at the national level; many countries either did not permit their activities at all or limited them. Treating non-governmental organizations as mere instruments not only created frustration but also raised doubts, among some, as to the credibility of the United Nations itself, as demonstrated by the efforts undertaken by many non-governmental organizations and private organizations outside United Nations structures and programmes, as well as by the lack of faith in the United Nations openly displayed by groups of activists for peace or for the protection of human rights. That trend must be reversed, and the potential of the non-governmental organizations must be regarded as a source of strength that would enable the non-governmental organizations and the United Nations—together—to prepare a better future both for the current generation and for future generations. The non-governmental organizations were prepared to co-operate with Member States at both the international and national levels, were in favour of more openness and mutual understanding and were willing to participate in formal or informal contact groups and in consultations on an individual basis.

28. If substantive issues concerning co-operation with non-governmental organizations were to be better understood, some structural problems must be solved and the activities carried out by non-governmental organizations must be better integrated with those carried out by other organizations. Two proposals could be put forward to achieve that end. The first was that special officers for contacts with non-governmental organizations should be assigned to the missions accredited to the United Nations. The second proposal was that special units for relations with non-governmental organizations should be established at ministries for foreign affairs. Such units would

ensure consistency in each Government's dealings with non-governmental organizations. The Conference believed that consideration of the report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations could be the beginning stage of a more meaningful and continuous exchange of views on the role of non-governmental organizations in the United Nations system. It was very much looking forward to a constructive dialogue with Member States, both in the Committee and in other forums.

29. Mr. McGANN (United States of America) said that he endorsed the suggestions put forward by the President of the Conference of Non-governmental Organizations in Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council with a view to promoting increased contacts and co-operation with non-governmental organizations; he hoped that other delegations would also seek to develop their relationships with non-governmental organizations.

30. Mrs. SUNDBOM (Observer for Sweden), speaking as Chairman of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, introduced the Committee's report (E/1989/40 and Corr.1), saying that the Committee had devoted most of its time to the consideration of applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification submitted by non-governmental organizations. At its session in 1989, it had adopted a number of recommendations and had decided, on an exceptional basis and without establishing a precedent, to defer to its session in 1991 a decision on the classification of two non-governmental organizations.

31. The Committee had approved the draft provisional agenda for its session to be held in 1991 (*ibid.*, para. 1, draft decision II), thereby giving the Non-Governmental Organizations Unit of the Secretariat time to prepare the documents requested by the Committee and giving the non-governmental organizations time to prepare their quadrennial reports.

32. The Committee had considered the quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in categories I and II and had decided to recommend to the Council the reclassification of four organizations from category II to the Roster for failure to provide the information requested (*ibid.*, draft decision III). That recommendation clearly showed the importance which Member States attached to the activities of non-governmental organizations and the necessity for those organizations to report in a clear and timely manner, particularly with regard to their activities in support of the work of the United Nations, the composition of their Board or Executive Committee, their financial status and information on the countries in which they were represented or conducted activities.

33. The Committee had decided to recommend the inclusion on the provisional agenda for the second regular session of the Council an item entitled "Charter of housing rights".

34. The Committee had held an extensive review of its future activities and had expressed the view that Council resolution 1296 (XLIV) should continue to govern and guide the Committee's work, although some members had been of the view that there was a need to establish guidelines for interpreting the provisions of the resolution. In accordance with the request made by the Committee in 1987, the Non-Governmental Organizations Unit had organized a consultation between the Committee and non-governmental organizations in consultative status which had proved very useful. She hoped that such consultations would be held each year.

35. The first Vice-President of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Status with the Council had expressed strong concern because non-governmental organizations which had not been granted consultative status had been able to participate in certain United Nations conferences and events while others, which were in consultative status, had not. He had therefore asked that, in such cases, non-governmental organizations in consultative status should have the right to participate, while not excluding other interested and active non-governmental organizations.

36. The Committee also recommended draft decision I for adoption by the Council. By that decision the Council would decide to grant category II consultative status to 33 organizations, to include 17 organizations on the Roster, to reclassify 1 organization from category II to category I consultative status and 5 organizations from the Roster to category II consultative status and to grant category I consultative status to 1 other. However, with regard to the latter organization, the Bureau of the Committee had received additional information which the Committee should examine at its 1991 session so as to enable it to reconsider its recommendation. The Committee had decided to defer a total of nine applications to its session in 1991.

37. The PRESIDENT drew the Council's attention to draft decision I, entitled "Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification received from non-governmental organizations", and proposed the addition of a subparagraph (*c*) by which the application for category I status of the organization concerning which the Bureau had received additional information would be referred back to the Committee.

*Draft decision I, as orally amended, was adopted* (decision 1989/106).

*Draft decision II, entitled "Provisional agenda and documentation for the session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations to be held in 1991", was adopted* (decision 1989/107).

*Draft decision III, entitled "Review of quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, categories I and II", was adopted* (decision 1989/108).

38. The PRESIDENT proposed the adoption by the Council of the recommendation to include a question entitled "Charter of housing rights" on the provisional agenda for its second regular session of 1989.

*It was so decided* (decision 1989/109).

39. Mr. PAYTON (New Zealand) asked whether the documentation on that item would be made available to the Council sufficiently in advance for the members to study it and contact their Governments.

40. Mr. STOBY (Secretary of the Council) said that the Committee already had before it a note by the Secretary-General on the question and that the Secretariat would determine, in consultation with the organization submitting the proposal, whether additional information was necessary.

41. The PRESIDENT proposed that the Council take note of the report of the Committee and the comments made on its methods of work.

*It was so decided* (decision 1989/110).

42. Mrs. MUKHERJEE (India) asked what action had been taken on the proposal to set up a working group to study further ways of improving the methods of work of the Committee.

43. Mrs. SUNDBOM (Observer for Sweden), speaking as Chairman of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, said that the Committee had not been able to reach a consensus on that question and had decided to refer it to the Council for consideration.

## AGENDA ITEM 1

### Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (*continued*) (E/1989/30)

GUIDELINES FOR INTERNATIONAL DECADES

44. The PRESIDENT recalled that, in its resolution 1988/63, the Council had recommended that the General Assembly adopt the guidelines for international decades contained in the annex thereto, and that, in its decision 43/434, the General Assembly, having considered the recommendation of the Council and the corresponding report by the Secretary-General,[7] had decided to refer the issue to the Council in 1989 for further consideration, as appropriate, with a view to enabling the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session to consider and take the appropriate action on that question (General Assembly decision 43/434).

45. Mr. PAYTON (New Zealand) said that his delegation strongly supported the elaboration of guidelines for international decades, as it had also supported, in July 1980, the adoption of guidelines for international years and anniversaries.

46. When the United Nations, through the Economic and Social Council, decided that an issue or an event was of such importance that it was necessary to draw it to the attention of the international community and dedicate a year to it, or even—which was increasingly the case—an entire decade, th General Assembly should, before undertaking such a commitment, be fully informed of all the implications which that decision would have for its members.

47. Although his delegation had been disappointed when the General Assembly had been unable, at its forty-third session, to adopt the annex to Council resolution 1988/63, concerning guidelines for international decades, it had understood very clearly the position of those delegations which had felt that, since the question had been considered only at the second regular session, when mainly economic matters were dealt with, and since the guidelines were to cover both the economic and social fields, the General Assembly could not take a decision. New Zealand had therefore agreed that the matter should be referred back to the Council. It now hoped that the members of the Council would make use of the opportunity available to them to express their concerns and to make observations so that the General Assembly could take a definitive decision on the question at its forty-fourth session.

48. He therefore proposed that, instead of considering both sides of the question formally in plenary meeting, the Council should request the Bureau to do so informally by contacting the parties concerned and to submit the views expressed at such consultations to the Council before the end of the session. A Vice-President, for example, could undertake that task. The Council could resume consideration of the matter at a formal meeting of the current session, and request participants at the second regular session to consider it also so that both the economic and social aspects would be taken into account. Any recommendations could be made to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session.

49. The PRESIDENT said that he had been about to suggest the same procedure, namely that consideration of the matter be entrusted to the Bureau, which would make a recommendation to the Council at another meeting.

50. Mr. SALARICH (Observer for Spain) said that he, too, was aware of the problem which had arisen at the forty-third session of the General Assembly and that consideration of that matter should include both the economic and social aspects. Accordingly, he supported the proposals by the representative of New Zealand and by the President.

*The proposal was adopted.*

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO DJIBOUTI (E/1989/L.15)

51. Mr. AL-KAHTANY (Saudi Arabia) thanked the members of the Council for supporting the draft resolution and for deciding to include under agenda item 1 a new question entitled "Emergency assistance to Djibouti" (see 6th meeting, para. 1). Emergency assistance by the international community had become necessary because of the extent of the damage caused in that country by torrential rains in April 1989.

52. He pointed out that Ghana had joined the sponsors of the draft resolution.

53. Mrs. CASTRO de BARISH (Observer for Costa Rica) said that her delegation had also joined the sponsors of the draft resolution.

54. The PRESIDENT said that the Council would return to that question at the following meeting and would take a decision at that time.

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO DEMOCRATIC YEMEN (E/1989/L.14)

55. Mr. OGAWA (Japan), Mr. WU Hailong (China), Mr. MOHIUDDIN (Observer for Bangladesh) and Mr. SOUTELLO ALVES (Brazil) said that they wished to join the sponsors of the draft resolution.

56. Miss COURSON (France) pointed out that, although her country was not on the original list of sponsors, France had been a sponsor of the draft resolution.

*Draft resolution E/1989/L.14 was adopted* (resolution 1989/1).

57. Mr. AL-ALFI (Observer for Democratic Yemen) warmly thanked the members of the Council for adopting unanimously the draft resolution on emergency assistance to his country. In view of the unprecedented extent of the damage caused by floods in March and April 1989 and his country's very limited resources, that generous assistance by the international community was sorely needed. Such a resolution would undoubtedly help mobilize the support of the international community to provide aid and comfort to those in need who had lost their resources, shelter and property. He was certain that, if needed, the necessary measures would be taken to provide additional assistance for reconstruction. He wished to thank in particular the President and the Secretary of the Council for their efforts to mobilize that assistance.

*The meeting rose at 4.50 p.m.*

# 9th meeting

**Friday, 12 May 1989, at 10.25 a.m.**

*President*: Mr. Kjeld Vilhelm MORTENSEN (Denmark)

E/1989/SR.9

## AGENDA ITEM 2

**Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (*continued*)* (E/1989/42 and Add.1-3, E/1989/48)**

1. Mrs. RICO (Observer for Spain), speaking on behalf of the twelve States members of the European Community, said that the rejection of all forms of discrimination was a principle enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and other international instruments. Governments bore the primary responsibility for acknowledging the existence of racism within their societies and acting to combat it.

2. The Twelve had systematically and unequivocally affirmed that all forms of racism and racial discrimination were incompatible with the ideals of a free and democratic society. They had actively participated in the programmes established within the framework of the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination. Several States members had made important financial contributions to the Trust Fund for the Programme for the Decade. The Twelve were pleased that special emphasis continued to be placed on education and training, as well as on legislative and administrative measures to combat racial discrimination. The global compilation of national legislative measures and the collection of model legislation were steps in the right direction.

3. The International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[8] was one of the most important legal mechanisms in the area of human rights. The Twelve hoped that those States which had not yet signed or ratified the Convention would soon do so, and appealed to all States parties to comply promptly with their reporting obligations. The machinery established under the Convention to monitor its implementation was facing serious financial difficulties. The Twelve once more urged all countries in arrears to meet the financial obligations which they had voluntarily assumed upon ratifying the Convention so as to enable the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination to discharge its important functions.

4. The perpetuation of *apartheid* in South Africa was the most urgent question facing the international community in its efforts to combat racism and racial discrimination. The Twelve condemned *apartheid* and called for its abolition. Since 1988, there had been no substantial progress in that direction. Despite the release of a number of political detainees, the Government of South Africa maintained the state of emergency throughout the country, while arbitrary arrests and other repressive measures continued.

5. Although the current situation was of great concern, the Twelve nevertheless considered that it was still possible and necessary to achieve the abolition of *apartheid* by peaceful means. Only broad-based negotiations with the participation of the authentic representatives of all South African people could bring an end to the violence and pave the way for the establishment of a truly democratic state.

6. Mr. OUDOVENKO (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic) said that the global consultation on racism and racial discrimination (see E/1989/48) had made a useful contribution. Such consultations could be held in the future and the conclusions reached should be disseminated widely. The elimination of the *apartheid* system in South Africa was the most urgent task in combating racism and racial discrimination.

7. The conflict in southern Africa could not be definitively resolved without the elimination of *apartheid*. The Pretoria régime continued to carry out its racist policies and had even stepped up its repressive acts to suppress all anti-*apartheid* activities. Under those conditions, the international community must take urgent co-ordinated measures. The most effective step was the imposition of comprehensive and mandatory sanctions in accordance with Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations. An embargo on shipments of strategic goods and the suspension of air links to South Africa could be an intermediate step. Increasing the number of parties to the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of *Apartheid*[9] would also further efforts in that area.

8. Although the search for a political settlement through negotiations was essential, in the final analysis, the South Africans themselves, both white and black, would find ways to eliminate the *apartheid* system and set up the necessary political, social and economic structures to replace it. His delegation supported the suggestions and recommendations set forth in the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (E/1989/42/Add.3). Those recommendations would promote the achievement of those objectives.

9. Unfortunately, racial discrimination was a widespread phenomenon in the world. Discrimination on the basis of race and national origin not only caused domestic friction, but also led to conflicts between States, endangering international peace and security. The main cause of racial discrimination was racial and national prejudice, which gave rise to ideas of racial and national superiority, chauvinism and nationalism. Such ideas were frequently used by extremist groups to stir up racial and national hatred. In addition to educational activities and the recognition of existing human rights instruments designed to combat racism and racial discrimination, State bodies and social, scientific and cultural organizations should take measures to ensure legislative and administrative protection against all types of discrimination and create the material conditions for guaranteeing the free and equal economic, social

*Resumed from the 5th meeting.

and cultural development of all peoples and racial and national groups.

10. In protecting the rights of minorities, it was also necessary to take into account the rights and interests of the racial and national majority in order to eliminate tension between national groups. The Ukrainian SSR was a multinational State, the population of which also included Russians, Hungarians, Poles, Greeks, Tartars and others. The policy of the Ukrainian Communist Party and Government aimed at creating the most favourable conditions for preserving and developing the national culture, language and traditions of all peoples in the Republic. That included not only administrative and legislative measures prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race or ethnic origin, but also the creation of the material conditions for the equal development of all peoples. Funds from the State budget were used to set up cultural centres, promote the study of national languages, publish books in those languages, encourage the study of the history of national groups and establish broad cultural links with the countries of origin.

11. Many States had acquired experience in that field. An analysis and evaluation of such experience would be useful in order to carry out measures to prevent discrimination. The participants in the global consultation could consider that question and put forward appropriate recommendations. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, which had made an important contribution to educational activities in that field, could help disseminate information on positive experience gained in preventing racial discrimination. His delegation supported the decision of the Committee to resume consideration of the question of progress made in implementing the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. Lastly, he stressed the importance of holding a seminar to evaluate experience acquired in implementing that Convention. Such a seminar should analyse the experience of individual countries, specialized agencies and international organizations and identify the obstacles to the complete implementation of the Convention and recommend ways to overcome them.

12. Mr. STRESOV (Bulgaria) said that the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination[6] was of particular importance in the international community's efforts to eradicate racism and racial discrimination. The abolition of *apartheid* would do more than anything else to enhance the further effectiveness of such efforts. Unfortunately, however, progress was slow in that area, and he hoped that it would receive the attention it deserved.

13. His delegation joined the overwhelming majority of Member States in calling for comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against South Africa in accordance with Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations. The urgent necessity of such action had been repeatedly emphasized by the Special Rapporteur of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, whose work was of the utmost importance and should be continued until all forms of complicity with *apartheid* had ended.

14. The issue was also relevant to the process of decolonization in Namibia. The implementation of the United Nations plan for the independence of Namibia required the abolition of all racist laws and regulations, in conformity with Security Council resolution 435 (1978). His delegation was concerned at attempts to retain *apartheid* laws in Namibia on the grounds that to do so would not be detrimental to the holding of free and fair elections.

15. Major international instruments provided a solid legal basis for combating *apartheid* and racial discrimination. He urged all States which had not yet ratified them to take the necessary action to do so.

16. Mr. WON (Observer for the Republic of Korea) said that his delegation appreciated the detailed information contained in the report of the Secretary-General (E/1989/42 and Add.1-3[10]). Emphasis should continue to be placed on the role of the Co-ordinator for Decade activities within the United Nations system. The results of the global consultation on racism and racial discrimination, as outlined in its report (E/1989/48, annex), also deserved close attention.

17. His Government was a staunch supporter of international efforts for the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination. In particular, it was strongly opposed to *apartheid*. Since 1978, it had provided financial assistance through the various United Nations trust funds and programmes for southern Africa. He hoped that concerted international action for the elimination of *apartheid* would be successful in the near future.

18. Mr. YOSSIF (Iraq) said that the documents which were before the Council reaffirmed that racism remained one of the most dangerous manifestations of prejudice in the world, despite increased efforts by the United Nations for its eradication. He commended the results and recommendations produced by the global consultation.

19. It was necessary to be aware of the factors which led to racism, including the denial of the right to be different. It was also necessary to examine the links between racism and imperialism and between racism and imperialist States, the most infamous of which was the alliance between the *apartheid* régime in South Africa and the Zionist régime in Israel. Those two racist and imperialist régimes flouted the will of the international community and continued to pose a threat to international peace and security.

20. The struggle against racism required a political commitment, to be expressed through adherence to the Charter of the United Nations and the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade,[6] as well as the relevant international instruments. Among the measures called for was the imposition of sanctions against the racist régime of South Africa in accordance with Chapter VII of the Charter.

21. Mr. GABOURY (World Federation of Trade Unions) said that since its inception, his organization had stressed that racial discrimination was a violation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[5] and that *apartheid* was a crime against humanity. It fully supported the Programme of Action for the Second Decade,[6] the pertinent resolutions of the Council and the General Assembly and the international conventions in the field.

22. The World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) had recently reaffirmed its solidarity with the struggle of workers in southern Africa against the racist Pretoria régime and condemned the continuing repression of trade-union activity and the persecution of activists. It had called for the release of Nelson Mandela and all other political prisoners, and expressed its support for the establishment of a united, non-racial and democratic society in

South Africa and for the independence of Namibia. WFTU used its publications and radio programmes to mobilize trade-union support world-wide for the struggle against racism and racial discrimination.

23. While generally approving the report of the Secretary-General contained in document E/1989/48, WFTU had reservations concerning the failure to include trade union representatives among the participants in the global consultation. Trade unions and workers' organizations stood in the forefront of the struggle for freedom, and for that reason they had become the primary targets of persecution by the racist Pretoria régime. There could be no doubt that the recent revisions of labour legislation were aimed at destroying the independent black trade-union movement in South Africa.

24. He called upon the United Nations, all Member States and all non-governmental organizations to redouble their efforts to eliminate racism, racial discrimination and *apartheid*, including the imposition of sanctions against South Africa.

25. Mr. ARABIAT (Jordan) said that the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (E/1989/42 and Add.1-3[10]) would help the Council to co-ordinate activities in that field. The report showed the serious commitment of the international community to the elimination of racism and racial discrimination. The suggestions and recommendations put forward by the Secretary-General in that regard should be given careful consideration. The international community must step up its efforts to provide a high level of assistance to the victims of racial discrimination and *apartheid* and to the national liberation movements concerned. The Security Council should consider the imposition of mandatory sanctions against South Africa under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations in order to put an end to the *apartheid* system.

26. Jordan, which was guided, in its policies, by the noble principles of the Islamic faith and the Charter, was deeply concerned at the persistence of racist practices in the world. South Africa continued to pursue its repressive *apartheid* policies. Aware of the dangers inherent in that system, the international community must take effective measures to compel South Africa to abandon its racist practices.

27. He drew attention to the continued suffering of the Palestinian Arab people under Israeli military occupation. The repressive and discriminatory policies and practices of Israel were very similar to those pursued by South Africa. Military occupation and racial discrimination were closely linked. Jordan supported the efforts of the international community to combat racial discrimination and reiterated its commitment to work with all countries and international organizations to achieve that goal. His delegation also reiterated its support for the national liberation movements in southern Africa in their struggle to achieve freedom, justice, equality and self-determination.

28. Mr. TERNOV (Observer for the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) said that his delegation had always considered the struggle against racism and racial discrimination one of the most important tasks of the United Nations. Accordingly, he wished to inform the Council that the Government of the Byelorussian SSR had recently withdrawn its reservations concerning the compulsory jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice with respect to six human rights instruments, including the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide,[11] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[8] and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.[12] That decision had been based on the desire to strengthen the international legal order and enhance the role of the International Court of Justice in that regard.

29. The report of the Secretary-General containing information received from Governments on the implementation of the Programme of Action (E/1989/42/Add.1) showed that many countries had adopted a broad approach to the prevention of racial discrimination. At the same time, the note by the Secretary-General on the global consultation on racism and racial discrimination (E/1989/48) showed that in a number of countries extremist movements were attempting to influence people, particularly young people, through nationalistic slogans. Migrant workers, refugees, national minorities and other groups were frequently the targets of attack. Neo-Nazi and neo-Fascist organizations were operating openly in a number of countries. In view of the crimes perpetrated by the forces of Nazism in the Second World War, the activities of such organizations, which supported discrimination and segregation on the basis of skin colour, religious convictions, culture and sex, should not be allowed to continue. The Constitution of the Byelorussian SSR prohibited all war propaganda and the stirring up of nationalist prejudices. Persons who committed acts of discrimination for any reason were subject to administrative and judicial sanctions. The Byelorussian SSR was a party to all the international conventions and agreements relating to the struggle against racial discrimination and regularly submitted reports on their implementation and complied with all decisions and recommendations by international bodies, including those set forth in the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.[6]

30. The United Nations had been unable to put an end to the *apartheid* system in South Africa owing to a lack of consensus among the Member States. Certain States should recognize the futility of their policy of constructive engagement and their hopes for a peaceful settlement of the crisis in South Africa through negotiation and constitutional changes. The *apartheid* system continued to threaten international peace. His delegation reiterated its position that the international community should adopt comprehensive sanctions against the Pretoria régime as the most effective measure for eliminating *apartheid*. In that regard, he pointed out that the overwhelming majority of the black population of South Africa supported the adoption of such sanctions by the Security Council.

31. The Middle East was another region where the United Nations should play a more active role in establishing peace and promoting justice. The continuing heroic uprising in the Arab territories occupied by Israel reflected the national aspirations of the Palestinian people, which must be taken into account. The large-scale acts of repression and cruelty carried out by the Israeli authorities against the civilian population in those territories had failed to suppress the uprising.

32. The decision by the Palestine National Council to declare the independence of the State of Palestine had opened up further possibilities for solving the Middle East problem. If the Government of Israel really wanted to establish peace in the region, it must agree to the holding of

an international conference on the Middle East. More active use could be made of the Security Council in order to settle the crisis in the region. Its permanent members could act as a preparatory body for the conference and hold regular contacts with the parties to the conflict. Lastly, his delegation hoped that the decisions adopted by the Council in 1989 would promote fruitful international co-operation and enhance the authority of the United Nations.

## AGENDA ITEM 1

### Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (*continued*)

#### International Conference on Central American Refugees

33. Mr. VILLAGRAN DE LEON (Observer for Guatemala) said that the Central American countries, Mexico and Belize were extremely pleased with the help they had been given by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Development Programme and other United Nations agencies in preparing for the forthcoming International Conference on Central American Refugees.

34. The Conference had not been conceived as an isolated event. Its broad aim was to consider what was required and make specific suggestions as to how to deal with the problems of Central American refugees, returnees and displaced persons, giving due attention to the special needs of refugee women and children. The intention was to adopt a plan of action consisting of programmes and projects which the international community could support. Other objectives were to evaluate progress in protecting and helping refugees and voluntary returnees and to promote national action programmes leading towards a development-linked strategy. That would give priority to the neediest and take account of current conditions in the transit camps. The Conference would provide an opportunity to mobilize resources and bring together a variety of co-operation proposals designed to encourage voluntary repatriation, integration into the country of asylum or, in special cases, resettlement in third countries, in keeping with current peace efforts in Central America.

35. Increased assistance from the international community for the consolidation of peace and democracy in Central America, in accordance with the Esquipulas II agreement,[13] was vital. At the same time, it was important not to allow assistance to be made conditional upon sectarian political criteria. The Conference would be a worthwhile contribution to peace in Central America, in keeping with the formal commitment by the Governments of the region to continue working on the problems of refugees and their voluntary repatriation on purely humanitarian and apolitical grounds while exploring new ways to tie action to benefit refugees, returnees and displaced persons in with the process of development in general. It could also help to further the Special Plan of Economic Co-operation for Central America endorsed by the General Assembly in resolution 42/231.

36. A concerted effort to deal with the problem of refugees would depend on support and co-operation from, and co-ordination between, the international community and the various international organizations concerned. The voluntary repatriation programmes mentioned in the joint plan of action that would be put before the Conference included multisectoral projects designed to reintegrate returnees into their communities, while also benefiting the receiving communities. They reflected a commitment to uphold the right of refugees to return to their countries of origin, to obtain information on the situation there so that they could decide freely whether to return and to choose their destination within the country, while guaranteeing them freedom from discrimination, access to means of subsistence and land and protection for their ethnic and cultural values.

37. In addition to the problems of refugees created by the crisis in Central America, a much larger number of people dislocated within their home countries also needed attention. The massive population upheaval had caused unprecedented human suffering extending to the new lost communities as well as the displaced themselves. The Central American countries had renewed their commitment to voluntary repatriation combined with personal safety and material security for the returnees. They had reaffirmed the importance they attached to the 1951 Convention[14] and the 1967 Protocol[15] relating to the Status of Refugees and reiterated their commitment to foster respect for the fundamental principles of refugee protection.

38. Recent developments in the region offered a unique opportunity for swift, decisive action and policies promoting firm and lasting peace, which would buttress true democracy and equitable development. He invited all member States to arrange to be represented at the Conference at the highest level, as a sign of solidarity and support for the democratization of Central America.

39. Mr. da CUNHA (Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) said that the International Conference on Central American Refugees would not be a meeting of donors, but would concentrate on discussing political problems in strictly humanitarian terms, in the context of negotiations on regional peace and development. The Conference, which represented only one stage in the Central American peace process, would seek to establish a strict correlation between assistance for refugees and assistance for development.

40. The situation in Latin America, and in Central America especially, had changed radically in recent years, and large numbers of often well-educated people leaving their countries for fear of political persecution were starting to need not just asylum but material assistance. Since the beginning of the 1980s, almost one tenth of the total population of Central America had been dislocated. One aim of the Conference was to arrange help both for the countries where refugees originated and for the countries offering asylum. In cases where voluntary repatriation looked unlikely, the refugee camps must be opened up so as to enable the people inside them to establish themselves in the surrounding economy. A variety of proposals would be put before the forthcoming conference; he called on countries to respond to the Secretary-General's appeal and provide the assistance needed.

#### Emergency assistance to Djibouti (*continued*) (E/1989/L.15)

41. The PRESIDENT noted that the delegations of Italy, Zaire, Bolivia, Nigeria and Côte d'Ivoire had expressed the wish to become sponsors of draft resolution E/1989/L.15. If he heard no objection, he would take it the Council wished to adopt that draft resolution.

*It was so decided* (resolution 1989/2).

42. Mr. DORANI (Observer for Djibouti) welcomed the consensus on the adoption of draft resolution E/1989/L.15 and expressed thanks to all the organizations and donors who were helping his country to overcome the effects of the recent floods.

*The meeting rose at 12.25 p.m.*

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# 10th meeting

**Monday, 15 May 1989, at 3.15 p.m.**

*President*: Mr. Kjeld Vilhelm MORTENSEN (Denmark)

E/1989/SR.10

## AGENDA ITEM 2

**Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (*continued*) (E/1989/42 and Add.1-3, E/1989/48)**

1. Mr. TANIGUCHI (Japan) said that, although the international community had endorsed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[5] racial discrimination persisted in many parts of the world, particularly in South Africa, where the abhorrent policy of *apartheid*, an institutionalized system of racism, denied basic human rights and fundamental freedoms to the majority of the South African people, provoking uprisings among the oppressed population and arousing the hostility of neighbouring States and the outrage of the international community. South Africa, in desperation, continued to take one measure after another to suppress popular discontent and to tighten restrictions on the media in a vain attempt to conceal the atrocities it was committing. Japan believed that the international community must intensify its efforts to induce the Government of South Africa to abolish *apartheid*, and had repeatedly insisted that South Africa must take concrete measures, and present to the international community a credible timetable, for the achievement of that goal. Those measures must include the lifting of the state of emergency, the immediate and unconditional release of all political prisoners, particularly Nelson Mandela, and the dismantling of the "bantustan" system. South Africa must also refrain from military incursions into neighbouring States.

2. His Government had taken strict measures to comply with the various United Nations resolutions on *apartheid*; e.g., it did not maintain diplomatic, but only consular, relations with South Africa; it imposed strict restrictions on sports, cultural and educational exchanges; it discouraged its nationals from travelling to South Africa; it prohibited direct investment in South Africa; it restricted commercial loans; and it prohibited iron and steel imports from and arms exports to South Africa and all types of co-operation with that country in the nuclear field. The Japanese business community had heeded the Government's appeal to exercise maximum restraint in trading with South Africa, and consequently, trade between the two countries had decreased in 1988 by 14.7 per cent in yen, and by 3.5 per cent in United States dollars, in comparison to the corresponding 1987 figures. There could be no doubt that direct economic pressure by the international community was sending a clear political signal to South Africa.

3. At the same time, his country attached great importance to political dialogue and to intensifying exchanges with regional leaders, including black leaders in South Africa. It was also providing assistance to the neighbouring African States, which were suffering economic difficulties as a result of South Africa's coercive policies, and was making efforts to increase its trade relations with other African countries. Japan was extending human resources development assistance to help prepare the black people of South Africa to discharge their responsibilities effectively in their national reconstruction efforts; its contributions to the humanitarian and educational funds and programmes of the United Nations, as well as its bilateral assistance, attested to the importance which it attached to that issue. During the preceding three years, it had made contributions to the Trust Fund for the Programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and would continue to do so in the current year.

4. It was crucial that a more realistic approach be taken in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination,[6] in order to ensure its full implementation. For instance, priorities could be identified among the various activities contemplated, emphasizing those of the greatest urgency and universality. In that connection, the importance of long-term education programmes and public information campaigns should be stressed. Similarly, it was necessary to maintain full co-ordination within the United Nations system as a whole and to increase contributions to United Nations organs and bodies in order to combat racism more effectively.

5. Mr. NOGUEIRA-BATISTA (Brazil) said that the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (E/1989/42 and Add.1-3[10]) confirmed the importance which had been attached to the international struggle against racism and racial discrimination.

6. His country was fully in agreement with the main objectives of the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination. The new Brazilian constitution, which had entered into force on 5 October 1988, stated that, in its international relations, Brazil would be guided by the principles of self-determination of peoples and repudiation of racism. Other constitutional provisions coincided with some of the basic recommendations contained in the Programme of Action for the Second Decade,[6] such as the punishment of any discriminatory act

resulting in the denial of fundamental rights and freedoms, and the characterization of the practice of racism as an imprescriptible crime which was punishable by imprisonment and for which bail was not granted.

7. His Government fully supported the international struggle against all forms of racism, particularly institutionalized and State-sponsored racial discrimination as embodied in the South African régime of *apartheid*, a practice which was universally repudiated because it negated the basic principles of society. Racism and racial discrimination were enemies of peace, since they carried the germ of social disaggregation. The intolerance, injustice and violence inherent in racism gave rise to domestic tensions which could easily cross national frontiers and provoke international conflicts, as shown by the grave situation in southern Africa resulting from *apartheid*. It was absolutely urgent and necessary to abolish *apartheid*; for that purpose, the international community must adopt collective measures to exert pressure and at the same time express its repudiation of *apartheid*.

8. Mr. UMER (Observer for Pakistan) said that, for more than 40 years, the international community had condemned the policies of the Pretoria régime and expressed its solidarity with the black majority in South Africa and the oppressed people of Namibia. The racist minority régime, however, persisted in its abhorrent policy of *apartheid*, continuing to massacre innocent people, violate basic human rights and commit aggression against the front-line States. The repression and intimidation had strengthened popular resistance and intensified the struggle for freedom. The liberation movements in southern Africa were determined to establish their inalienable right to self-determination. The heroic resistance by the valiant people of Namibia to occupation and racism had led to the implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978). However, the international community must remain alert to any attempts by Pretoria to impede the implementation of the plan for the independence of Namibia. The struggle against racism must be resolute, and maximum publicity should be given to efforts to combat that evil. States which had not yet become parties to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[8] should be urged to do so.

9. His country had supported all actions and resolutions of the United Nations aimed at the elimination of *apartheid* and had provided practical and material assistance to its victims. His Government did not maintain any diplomatic, political, commercial, sports or cultural contacts with the illegal Pretoria régime and condemned its gross violations of human rights. Pakistan once again called for the immediate release of all political prisoners, including Nelson Mandela, the repeal of all discriminatory laws, including the Labour Relations Act, and the removal of all restrictions on labour movements.

10. The elimination of racial discrimination could not be achieved without condemning the oppression and repression of the Palestinian and Arab peoples in the occupied Arab territories by Israel. His country remained committed to the just cause of the Palestinian people and reaffirmed its support for their struggle to regain their inalienable rights. It also called upon the international community to assume its responsibility to compel Israel to restore the rights of the Palestinian people.

11. Mr. DASGUPTA (India) said that his delegation had read with interest the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (E/1989/42 and Add.1-3[10]) and supported the suggestions and recommendations it contained (E/1989/42/Add.3). They included specific measures for combating *apartheid*, the most important of which was putting an end to all collaboration with the racist régime. It had also been suggested that existing international instruments on the question, such as the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[8] and the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of *Apartheid*,[9] should be universally ratified. Governments had also been requested to strengthen legal action against racism and racial discrimination by creating legal sanctions for racist offences. His delegation supported the holding of seminars, as well as teaching, training and the dissemination of information and publications, in order to alert the public to the dangers of racist manifestations and to ways of counteracting them. Printed and audio-visual materials should also be prepared. Some of those recommendations had already been suggested at the global consultation on racism and racial discrimination (E/1989/48).

12. The availability of adequate resources was crucial to the success of the activities of the Second Decade; he therefore called on Member States to support the Trust Fund for the Programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination. His delegation also called on the Centre for Human Rights to assume primary responsibility for and focus its activities on the struggle against racism, racial discrimination and *apartheid*.

13. It was deplorable that, in modern times, the United Nations still had to proclaim a Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination. The success of the Second Decade was essential if the United Nations was to fulfil its responsibilities under the Charter. The struggle of the United Nations against racism and racial discrimination was an integral part of the wider struggle of the peoples of the world against all forms of oppression, domination, exploitation and discrimination. Racism and racial discrimination posed a permanent threat to peace and security in South Africa in particular and in the world in general.

14. India was committed to the cause of eliminating racism and racial discrimination in all its forms, particularly *apartheid*. Mahatma Gandhi had launched a struggle against racism during his years in South Africa, and that had been a factor in his subsequent resolve to uproot imperialism in India. The struggle against racism was thus intrinsically linked with India's freedom struggle.

15. Measures taken by India against racial discrimination in South Africa included the severing of diplomatic and trade relations with South Africa in 1946, a sports and cultural boycott and full support for the liberation movement and for United Nations initiatives against *apartheid*. India had acceded to the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of *Apartheid*[9] in October 1977, and had actively participated in the preparation and adoption of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.[8] Article 15 of the Indian Constitution expressly prohibited any discrimination based on religion, caste, sex or creed. India had also enacted legislative measures to give the Convention relating to *apartheid*[9] the force of domestic law.

16. The struggle against racism and racial discrimination was one of the greatest challenges facing the United Nations, and his delegation hoped that the struggle would at least result in Namibia's early independence. The struggle of the Namibians and South Africans for national liberation and human dignity was ultimately the struggle of mankind to live freely and independently.

17. Mr. YU Mengjia (China) said that combating racism and racial discrimination had always been among the highest priorities of the United Nations. Since the beginning of the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, there had been a dynamic surge in the international struggle, the goals of which had won the admiration of the world. The report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (E/1989/42 and Add.1-3[10]) gave an overview of the activities in that field and outlined, in particular, the tremendous efforts made by the United Nations bodies, Governments, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations. The report, which contained constructive suggestions and proposals (see E/1989/42/Add.3) for the continued implementation of the Programme of Action, would doubtless play a valuable role in co-ordinating the international struggle against racism and racial discrimination.

18. China deemed it necessary to underscore the positive role of the Commission on Human Rights, which, in its resolution 1989/9, had reaffirmed the strong conviction of the international community that racism, racial discrimination and *apartheid* constituted a total negation of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.[5] In its resolution, the Commission had also expressed its determination to eradicate totally and unconditionally racism in all its forms, racial discrimination and *apartheid*. In keeping with the plan of activities for the second half of the Second Decade, 1990-1993,[16] the Commission on Human Rights had decided that the political, historical, economic, social and cultural factors contributing to racism, racial discrimination and *apartheid* would be a topic for consideration in 1989. His delegation supported the proposal by the Commission on Human Rights that the Secretary-General should organize in 1990 a meeting of representatives of national institutions and organizations combating racism and racial discrimination.

19. In keeping with the Programme of Action for the Second Decade,[6] the global consultation on racism and racial discrimination had been held in Geneva in October 1988. His delegation was pleased that the note by the Secretary-General on the consultation (E/1989/48) made some useful suggestions and proposals, including the imposition of mandatory sanctions against the South African régime and an appeal to all Governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations to step up their activities against racism and *apartheid*, provide relief and assistance to the victims of those evils, and accede to, ratify and implement the relevant international instruments. China was convinced that the recommendations of the global consultation would have a positive impact on the implementation of the plan of activities for the second half of the Second Decade. His delegation also supported the recommendation that the General Assembly should ensure the future funding of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination so that its financial difficulties would be mitigated and its normal functioning guaranteed.

20. The primary task of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade was to combat *apartheid*, which was the extreme and most institutionalized form of racism and an affront to the human conscience and to human dignity. Despite the fact that the political situation in southern Africa had taken a turn for the better as a result of a number of factors, in South Africa massive violations of human rights persisted. In 1988, the South African authorities had intensified their suppression of the South African people's anti-*apartheid* movement, extended the "state of emergency", banned anti-*apartheid* publications, imprisoned progressive editors and continued to arrest and murder those who dared to oppose the policies of *apartheid*. Mr. Nelson Mandela, the leader of the black movement, was still deprived of his freedom. All of that had aroused strong protest and condemnation by the justice-loving countries and peoples of the world.

21. The Chinese people had always sympathized with their black brothers in South Africa and supported them in their just struggle to gain freedom and equal rights by abolishing the *apartheid* system. The Chinese Government supported the activities of the United Nations against racism and racial discrimination, and would continue to contribute to them.

22. Mr. ZEPOS (Greece) said that his delegation fully agreed with the statement by the representative of Spain on behalf of the European Community and its 12 States members (9th meeting).

23. Greece had always attached great importance to General Assembly resolution 38/14, in which the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination was proclaimed, and to other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council. While significant progress had been achieved since 1973, when the first Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination had been proclaimed, racism remained a problem from which no society was completely immune. Greece had adopted firm legislative and administrative measures to combat all forms of racism and racial discrimination.

24. Greece remained concerned over the lack of progress in efforts to abolish *apartheid* in South Africa, the only State in the world which had institutionalized racial discrimination. *Apartheid*, which constituted the most repulsive form of violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms, was an affront to human dignity. *Apartheid* could not be reformed; it must be abolished so that a free, democratic society could be established in South Africa. His delegation believed that effective international pressure should be maintained as a means of impressing upon the South African Government the need for real change.

25. Over the past two years, Greece had initiated a national programme of assistance to the victims of *apartheid* as well as a scholarship programme for black South African students. During the current year, 10 students were studying in Greece, while for the next academic year 18 more scholarships would be granted. In 1988, a Symposium on Culture against *Apartheid*, organized by the Special Committee against *Apartheid* in co-operation with the Ministry of Culture of Greece and the Hellenic Association for the United Nations, had been held in Athens. The aim of the Symposium was to consider the current situation in South Africa, to review the role of artists and

entertainers in the struggle against *apartheid*, to discuss the cultural boycott of South Africa and to consider initiatives for new positive action by artists in connection with the international campaign against *apartheid*. The recommendations of the Symposium, which appeared in document A/AC.115/L.656, included a programme of action to strengthen the cultural boycott of South Africa.

26. The important role of education in ending racism and racial discrimination must be stressed. Member States should give priority to combating those evils through proper instruction in schools. Information at the global level was also very effective in increasing public awareness of those questions. It was for that reason that Greece had supported the resolutions of the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights concerning the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights established in General Assembly resolution 43/128. In that respect, he noted with satisfaction that the Secretary-General indicated in his report that the fight against racial discrimination and the struggle for equality would play a key part in that campaign.

27. The Secretary-General's note on the global consultation on racism and racial discrimination (E/1989/48) contained useful conclusions and suggestions which, if implemented, could greatly contribute to combating racism. It was proposed, *inter alia*, that the competent human rights bodies of the United Nations should continue to consider the possibility of updating existing studies dealing with racism, racial discrimination and *apartheid*. He suggested that, in updating those studies, the appropriate bodies of the United Nations should bear in mind the report on "Racism and fascism in Europe" of the fact-finding committee of the European Parliament, which was one of the best documented sources of information and included a number of recommendations which had perhaps already been used by the United Nations Centre for Human Rights. In conclusion, Greece wished to reiterate its firm support for the objectives of the Second Decade aiming at the total elimination of *apartheid*, racism and racial discrimination.

28. Miss DE SILVA (Sri Lanka) said that the item under consideration was of great significance for the betterment of the entire international community. The segregation of peoples on the basis of colour, race, religion, nationality and social and economic origin had given rise to discrimination in various forms, and racism was undoubtedly one of the manifestations of such prejudice. The dangerous phenomenon of racism was even more serious in its institutionalized form, *apartheid*. The eradication of racial discrimination required the unstinted co-operation of the entire international community.

29. The United Nations continued to play a crucial role in the struggle to eradicate racial discrimination. The consensus proclamation in 1983 of the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination had clearly demonstrated the commitment of Member States to fighting racism in all its dimensions. The report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade (E/1989/42 and Add.1-3[10]) provided valuable insight into the activities undertaken by the United Nations and its specialized agencies.

30. Her delegation noted with satisfaction that, in the struggle against racism, special emphasis was being placed on education. It also welcomed the action taken in regard to the preparation of model legislation and the compilation of national legislative measures. Her delegation, while acknowledging the positive aspects of the decades against racism, hoped that, even after they were over, the momentum acquired in the struggle would be continued, since racism was a permanent problem. Sri Lanka welcomed General Assembly resolution 42/47, which authorized the Secretary-General to organize a global consultation on racial discrimination with the participation of representatives of the United Nations system, regional intergovernmental organizations and interested non-governmental organizations.

31. Her delegation recognized the pivotal role played by the Commission on Human Rights and reaffirmed its support for its endeavours in the struggle against racism, racial discrimination and *apartheid*. It also recognized the important work that the Human Rights Committee continued to do and believed that the contribution made by that body in helping to achieve the objectives set out in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[3] was of immense value.

32. In the view of Sri Lanka, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[8] was one of the most important legislative mechanisms in the field of human rights. It was heartening to note that 128 nations were parties to the Convention, including Sri Lanka. Her delegation appealed to those Member States which had not yet signed the Convention to take action speedily. It also hoped that the budgetary constraints faced by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination would be solved expeditiously. Her delegation believed that more publicity should be given to the Committee's work, so that the international community might be better informed of the activities of the Committee in implementing and monitoring the workings of the Convention.

33. *Apartheid* was the most malevolent and extreme manifestation of racism and was a serious problem needing an urgent solution. Sri Lanka unequivocally condemned the policies of the Government of South Africa, which were a flagrant violation of human rights. The complete eradication of that system must be the common goal of the international community. In that context, the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of *Apartheid*[9] was a step in the right direction in overcoming the problem of *apartheid*. Sri Lanka was a party to that Convention and appealed to those Member States which had not yet acceded to it to do so without further delay.

34. Her delegation attached importance to the work of various non-governmental organizations in the field of human rights and, while it appreciated their contribution in that regard, it hoped that their future work would be pursued with objectivity and constructiveness.

35. The availability of adequate resources was of crucial importance to the success of the activities of the second half of the Second Decade; her delegation therefore hoped that the necessary resources would be forthcoming.

36. Mrs. SHERMAN-PETER (Bahamas) said that virtually all countries had established, in their constitutions and laws, the principle, which was also enshrined in international law, that no one should be a victim of racism and racial discrimination. Although law could curb the obvious manifestations of those evils, a more concerted effort was needed to change the attitudes of members of society. In that respect, the Second Decade to Combat

Racism and Racial Discrimination provided a viable framework for the vigorous efforts required to combat those scourges. The Programme of Action for the Second Decade[6] and the corresponding plans of activities were also essential for the elimination of racism and racial discrimination. The seminar on the effects of racism and racial discrimination on the social and economic relations between indigenous peoples and States and the global consultation on racism and racial discrimination also provided valuable policy insights.

37. Her delegation considered that the suggestions and recommendations put forward in document E/1989/42/Add.3 were generally acceptable and, in particular, it supported the imposition of mandatory sanctions against South Africa, the ratification of the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of *Apartheid*,[9] the dissemination of information and the promotion of racial harmony and tolerance through education, sports, the arts and other activities.

38. Her delegation was concerned about the financial difficulties faced by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. An effort must be made to resolve those problems by providing the Committee with the necessary resources. Delays in the submission of reports to the Committee must also be ended. The Bahamas undertook to give priority to the submission of its overdue reports.

39. The international community must take the necessary steps to eliminate *apartheid* by peaceful means. In that respect, it was essential for all States, particularly those maintaining economic, political and other ties with the Pretoria Government, to support the imposition of mandatory sanctions against South Africa and to ratify and implement the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of *Apartheid*. It must also be ensured that Namibia gained its independence. A free and sovereign Namibia would promote the cause of racial equality in southern Africa.

40. The international community must also see to it that South Africans and the global community remained aware of realities within southern Africa; the Bahamas therefore fully supported the activities undertaken to counter the Pretoria Government's manipulation of the media.

41. The Constitution of the Bahamas guaranteed fundamental rights and freedoms to all persons, irrespective of race or place of origin. Moreover, in the Bahamas the judicial process had never been invoked in respect of those rights. Public awareness activities were carried out not only to curtail the growth of racism and racial discrimination, but also to demonstrate how destructive those phenomena could be.

42. In the international arena, the Bahamas maintained no contacts with the racist régime of Pretoria and, through the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations, it provided moral and financial support to those struggling against racism, racial discrimination and *apartheid* and, specifically, made regular contributions to the Trust Fund for the Programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.

43. Mrs. NIKOLIC (Yugoslavia) said that racism and racial discrimination were still being practised throughout the world, although they constituted a denial of the various rights laid down in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.[5] The instruments adopted by the United Nations to eliminate those evils had not been sufficient and had therefore had to be supplemented by additional measures, such as the two decades for action to combat racism and racial discrimination. In that respect, documents E/1989/42 and Add.1 to 3,[10] containing the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade, were of interest since they reviewed a wide range of activities carried out by the United Nations in that sphere.

44. All countries needed to ratify the international instruments providing for the eradication of racial discrimination and *apartheid*, notably the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[8] to which 128 States were already party. The financial crisis which the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination was undergoing also needed to be resolved because it threatened the Committee's very existence, as the recent cancellation of another spring session showed. Model legislation to help States enact strict anti-discrimination laws with effective legal recourse should be developed on the basis of the relevant international instruments.

45. Racism also threatened the dignity and human rights of different vulnerable groups, such as migrant workers, minorities and indigenous populations. Priority should be given during 1989 to the completion and entry into force of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the completion of the declaration on the rights of persons belonging to national, ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities. She noted with interest that the Centre for Human Rights had held a seminar in January 1989 on the effects of racism and racial discrimination on the social and economic relations between indigenous peoples and States.

46. Her country attached particular importance to co-ordination and the strengthening of public information activities to oppose racism and racial discrimination. It felt that the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights and the recent establishment of an external relations section in the Centre for Human Rights were of great importance in that regard.

47. As the situation in South Africa remained grave, the international community urgently needed to take more determined action and give top priority to the imposition of comprehensive mandatory sanctions against the South African régime under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations. Her country had prohibited any kind of co-operation or relations with the racist South African régime since the early 1960s.

48. It was now more than one year since the Palestinian people had risen against Israeli occupation. The insurrection had dispelled any idea that the occupation would be legalized with the passage of time and had shown that the Palestinian problem could not be ignored lest a conflict break out with unforeseeable consequences. A lasting solution must be negotiated on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973), by means of an international peace conference on the Middle East under United Nations auspices, in which all interested parties, including the PLO, participated on an equal footing.

49. Mr. CHOWDHURY (Observer for Bangladesh) said that although 40 years had passed since the proclamation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[5] racism, racial discrimination and *apartheid* persisted in South Africa. The time had come for the international commu-

nity to take steps to assist the unfortunate people of South Africa in ridding themselves of those evils. The report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (E/1989/42 and Add.1-3[10]) was of great importance in that context, providing a detailed review of the various activities undertaken. Despite those activities, the Pretoria régime continued to flout world opinion with torture, arbitrary arrests, intimidation, repressive measures and a state of emergency. In the circumstances, his country joined the rest of the international community in supporting all possible assistance for the victims of *apartheid* and for those campaigning against *apartheid*.

50. Bangladesh, a party to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[8] and the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of *Apartheid*,[9] urged all Member States which had not yet done so to adhere to or ratify those Conventions.

51. It was to be hoped that the Economic and Social Council would recommend appropriate action to end the financial difficulties faced by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

52. Adequate resources being vital to the success of the Second Decade, he urged Member States and organizations to contribute generously to the Trust Fund for the Programme for the Decade. Despite its difficult economic circumstances, his country had given $1,000 to the Trust Fund and would in 1989 make contributions totalling $4,000 to other United Nations trust funds and programmes concerned with southern Africa and the fight against *apartheid*.

53. His country fully supported the call for comprehensive mandatory sanctions against the South African régime in accordance with Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, and reiterated its commitment to oppose all forms of colonialism, racism and racial discrimination. In that connection, he stated that his country maintained no relations of any kind with the Pretoria régime and had observed all United Nations resolutions designed to isolate it.

54. In accordance with Security Council resolution 435 (1978), Namibia would soon attain independence and join the international community as a sovereign State. His country was, therefore, particularly pleased to have supplied military observers and police forces for the United Nations Transition Assistance Group (UNTAG).

55. Mrs. LAFORTUNE (Canada) commented that on 10 December 1988, at the celebration of the fortieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[5] many heads of delegation had said that racism ran counter to the rights and freedoms which that Declaration proclaimed. As stated in the note by the Secretary-General on the global consultation on racism and racial discrimination held at Geneva in October 1988 (E/1989/48), the international community could not construct a society based on the dignity of the human person so long as racism persisted. Although racism could be found in various parts of the world, it took on much greater importance in South Africa where it was enshrined in law as the basis of society. Hence one of the main objectives of the Second Decade was to increase international pressure on the Pretoria régime to put an end to that loathsome practice.

56. Her country, as a member of the Commonwealth, had carried out all activities adopted by the Commonwealth, notably those approved at the most recent meeting of Commonwealth Heads of Government, held at Vancouver in October 1987. It had also, unilaterally or within the Commonwealth or United Nations framework, imposed a series of economic and other sanctions against South Africa.

57. The United Nations had adopted a number of instruments to promote respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, among them the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.[8] In the context of that Convention, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination played a central role, representing the most efficient mechanism for combating racism and prompting Member States to honour their obligations. The financial difficulties facing the Committee had to be resolved, and all States parties must therefore pay their financial contributions without delay. She hoped that in the mean time the Secretary-General would be authorized to finance the expenses of the Committee out of the regular budget of the United Nations.

58. As far as activities for the Second Decade were concerned, her country supported the recommendation calling for a compilation of national laws against racism in order to help States to draw up strict anti-discrimination legislation. It also believed that public opinion would be more aware of the inherent dangers of racism and means of combating it if information on the work of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination were made broadly available and a campaign were mounted to promote ratification of the existing international instruments on the subject.

59. Ms. RASI (Observer for Finland), speaking on behalf of the Nordic countries, said that racism and racial discrimination were universal phenomena that affected all countries to a greater or lesser extent, and both national and international action needed to be taken to eradicate them. Recognizing that primary responsibility for combating racism lay with Governments, the Nordic countries had taken drastic legislative, administrative and educational action to that end. Internationally, the United Nations had played a decisive role in disseminating information on racism and establishing standards and mechanisms to combat it. In that connection, the Nordic countries were pleased that the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination emphasized education and training, since they were among the most efficient means of fighting those scourges.

60. It was more necessary than ever to assist the victims of racial discrimination in every way possible—especially the victims of *apartheid*, one of the most serious violations of human rights in the modern world. But, as the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Nordic countries had said in a communiqué of March 1989, conditions within South Africa did not give rise to optimism about the early abolition of *apartheid*. The Nordic countries would continue to do all they could to rally public opinion behind that objective, and repeated that they would continue to work for a free, democratic South Africa without racial discrimination.

61. Pending the imposition of mandatory sanctions against South Africa by the Security Council, the Nordic countries had taken extensive unilateral measures to restrict their economic and other relations with South Africa and urged other countries to adopt similar measures.

62. In view of the importance of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[5] for the struggle against discriminatory practices, every effort should be made to find a solution to the financial problems confronting the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, whose task it was to monitor implementation of the Convention. The Nordic countries once again urged States parties to the Convention to pay their outstanding contributions and to submit their reports under the Convention in a timely manner.

63. Mr. BOUTET (France), recalling that his delegation had, on each occasion that it addressed the subject in question, reiterated its decision to promote the full implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination,[6] expressed his unconditional support for the recommendations for the final period of the Decade contained in the report of the Secretary-General (see E/1989/42/Add.3).

64. The situation in South Africa had not changed and was, if anything, deteriorating. None of the fundamental laws on which *apartheid* was based had been repealed; the repression, torture and maltreatment of opponents of *apartheid* had not diminished since the declaration of the state of emergency in 1985.

65. The international community must therefore continue to see the total elimination of *apartheid* as indispensable. There should be no reduction either in the pressure exerted on the authorities in South Africa or in the support provided to organizations fighting against *apartheid*. His country would continue to do all it could to ensure the attainment of that objective and repeated its determination to see that the embargoes and other measures adopted against South Africa at the national, regional and international levels were strictly respected.

66. It should not be forgotten that racism occurred in many forms; no human group could consider itself safe from that scourge. Renewed vigilance was required in order to ensure respect for the rights of the most vulnerable groups, including indigenous peoples, migrant workers and refugees. His country supported United Nations efforts to that end. The global consultation on racism and racial discrimination (see E/1989/48) showed that reflection and action could usefully be combined in order to fight against the racism to which those groups were subjected.

67. The report of the Secretary-General (E/1989/42 and Add.1-3[10]) noted the need to ensure the proper functioning of United Nations bodies dealing with racism, and particularly of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Renewed efforts were required to establish the conditions under which some bodies, including that Committee, might fully discharge their mandate. First, those States which had not yet done so should accede to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. It should also be noted that those States parties to the Convention which were in arrears in the payment of their contributions should fulfil their financial obligations under the Convention, since the effectiveness of its implementation was at stake.

68. Mrs. BUTIKU (Observer for the United Republic of Tanzania) said that the documents before the Council were evidence of racism's survival. It was sad that, with the century drawing to a close, *apartheid*, the very negation of the values held most dear by the civilized world and one of the most heinous systems ever invented by mankind, should still be on the Council's agenda.

69. The international community should not believe claims that the régime was on the road to reform. The reforms were cosmetic. The black majority was still excluded from the democratic process and the pillars of *apartheid* remained intact.

70. Her delegation was following the events in Namibia with deep concern. South Africa continued to control everything in Namibia, including the release of information. The recent events, which had led to many deaths among the civilian population of northern Namibia, were very revealing. Her country called for the abolition of all racist laws and regulations in Namibia. It was very familiar with wars designed to ruin countries which had recently achieved independence and therefore hoped that Namibia would be given the chance freely to choose its destiny once it was independent.

71. Mrs. ARUNGU-OLENDE (Kenya) thanked the Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights for his report (see 5th meeting, paras. 33-45) and noted with satisfaction the new methods being used by the Centre for Human Rights to strengthen its capacity to co-ordinate activities undertaken by the United Nations to promote the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.

72. Discrimination represented the negation of human rights and fundamental freedoms. The South African racist régime continued to keep hundreds of people in prison and to carry out crimes, such as the recent assassination of the white activist David Webster, in its doomed attempt to survive. So long as *apartheid* persisted, its elimination must be the principal concern of the international community. The best way in which to attain that objective by peaceful means was to impose far-reaching sanctions against South Africa.

73. For many countries, including hers, independence had meant the elimination of racial injustice. Discrimination occurred when peoples and Governments tolerated the idea that some individuals were superior to others, when there was a failure to accept the differences between peoples and when some individuals exploited others.

74. One of the suggestions made at the global consultation on racism and racial discrimination had been that education programmes for young people should include the issue of racism and racial discrimination and the principles of racial equality and respect for cultural diversity. Her delegation recalled that ignorance had played a major role in the persistence of prejudice.

75. The struggle of young blacks in South Africa against *apartheid* showed that it was possible for youth and peoples to force Governments to pay attention to them. In that connection, her delegation endorsed the proposal of the Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 1989/5 to declare an "Academic Year against *Apartheid*" and to provide instruction on *apartheid* at all educational institutions.

76. Her country's President, Mr. Daniel Arap Moi, continually reminded young people of the benefits of coexistence in a spirit of peace, love and unity. The Constitution prohibited all forms of discrimination. As a result, attitudes had changed in Kenya. Her country was now prepared to consider any new approach that might be proposed with a view to eliminating racism and racial discrimination and had noted with appreciation the efforts undertaken by

various United Nations bodies and agencies to combat those evils.

77. Mr. KRENKEL (Observer for Austria) said that the struggle against racism had become an integral part of daily life in societies throughout the world. *Apartheid*, an institutionalized form of denial of fundamental human rights, was the most flagrant example of racism and of violation of international law. South Africa, indeed, was the only State where racial discrimination constituted the organizing principle of society. His country had constantly condemned that system and shared the determination of most of the international community to adopt concrete measures in order to create pressure for change. At the thirty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women, Austria had voted in favour of a resolution concerning the situation of women and children under *apartheid* and had on many occasions called for the immediate and unconditional release of all political prisoners.

78. With regard to the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, his delegation recognized the usefulness of the information contained in document E/1989/42 concerning activities undertaken to achieve the objectives of the Second Decade and believed that concerted action by the different United Nations bodies involved in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade[6] would produce the desired effects. In that context, the conclusions and recommendations of the global consultation on racism and racial discrimination (see E/1989/48), held under the auspices of the Centre for Human Rights, constituted very useful guidelines which would give new impetus to the common endeavour to eradicate all forms of racial discrimination.

79. While the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[8] was the most widely accepted international instrument in the field of human rights, it was regrettable and unjustifiable that racial discrimination should continue to be a widespread phenomenon in many parts of the world and that the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, established under that Convention, should be unable to carry out its important functions as a result of the lack of political will of some Member States. The situation of that Committee was, unfortunately, similar to that of other supervisory bodies established under human rights instruments. New ways must be found to ensure the proper functioning of those bodies, and his country was ready to join other States Members of the United Nations in a common effort towards that end.

80. Mr. TSEPOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the elimination of racism and all forms of racial discrimination was a priority issue for the international community in the current Decade. The Soviet Union therefore welcomed the Secretary-General's report on the subject (E/1989/42 and Add.1-3[10]), as well as the efforts made by the Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights.

81. Racial discrimination gave rise not only to internal tensions but also to conflicts between States, as demonstrated by the inhuman and unacceptable *apartheid* régime. The international community must make a concerted effort to eliminate that régime. The Soviet Union endorsed the conclusions and recommendations of the global consultation on racism and racial discrimination (see E/1989/48), as a way of combating those scourges throughout the world. It also endorsed the objectives of the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and the plan of activities for the period 1990-1993,[16] particularly the educational measures and measures to ensure the dissemination of information on human rights.

82. No country was without racial problems, as the Soviet Union's own experience showed. Owing to recent events in various Soviet Republics, consideration had to be given to the need to extend the sphere of application of *perestroika*. All Governments must be aware of the phenomena in question in order to be able to adopt measures to deal with any tension that might be a threat to either national or international peace and security.

83. In the struggle against racism and racial discrimination, all countries must implement the relevant measures agreed upon internationally, such as General Assembly resolutions 43/91 and 43/92, and Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1989/6, 1989/7 and 1989/9. Another basic component of the struggle was promotion of public awareness of the evils of *apartheid*. In order to attain that goal, domestic legislation and institutions to promote racial harmony must be strengthened. In that connection, the Soviet Union endorsed the proposal that model legislation against racial discrimination should be drawn up, which could be transmitted to interested Governments for consideration. The Soviet Union urged all States to support the Centre for Human Rights in carrying out its activities, as well as to adopt practical measures to ensure implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.[8] Likewise, the financial difficulties experienced by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination must be overcome, so that it might continue the valuable activities that it had been carrying out for the past 20 years.

84. Mr. ZÁPOTOCKÝ (Czechoslovakia) said that the international community's most urgent task was to solve problems that constituted an obstacle to the development of international co-operation, the harmonious evolution of peoples and the development of human personality. Without question, one such problem was racism in its most extreme form, *apartheid*, and the curtailment or suppression of the right of peoples to self-determination. The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic continued to regard *apartheid* as the most blatant violation of human rights and of the principles of civilized coexistence. It had therefore always supported activities to combat such manifestations of injustice and would continue to work for their eradication. A number of positive responses had been noted recently to the appeals of the United Nations and its bodies for the elimination of the *apartheid* régime, and Czechoslovakia hoped that those responses would be translated into concrete steps by all States.

85. Regrettably, there was sometimes a considerable discrepancy between, on the one hand, the declarations made by some countries on the need to impose economic and other sanctions on the inhuman *apartheid* régime in South Africa and, on the other hand, the solid prosperity of a number of transnational corporations from those same countries derived from their co-operation with South Africa. That situation enabled the South African Government to maintain and even escalate its inhuman policy.

86. Czechoslovakia's position on the issue had been manifested primarily in the breaking off—already in 1962—of all diplomatic, economic, scientific, cultural and sports contacts with the racist régime of South Africa, as well as the adoption of resolute measures to isolate the

régime completely. Czechoslovakia did not maintain any contacts with South Africa, and all economic links with South Africa were prohibited.

87. As a result of pressure from and the efforts of the public at large throughout the world and many States Members of the United Nations, the implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978), on the decolonization of Namibia, had started in 1989. It was to be hoped that all the States concerned would live up honestly to their obligations under that resolution.

88. The Israeli Government's policy of zionism in respect of the population in the occupied Arab territories was another policy of racism and racial discrimination. Zionism downgraded the Arab population to second-rate citizens, preventing them from enjoying fundamental human rights, including the right of self-determination. However, it must be regarded as positive that some major Western States that had in the past given unreserved support to Israel and to its policy of violence were now taking a realistic approach to the Middle East problem, including a reassessment of their views on forms of the exercise of the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and the implementation of that right.

89. Racism and racial hatred were increasing even in the economically most advanced countries. It was disappointing to see the growth of violence towards and hatred of migrant workers and minorities—a phenomenon that must be neither overlooked nor underestimated.

90. Czechoslovakia had been participating actively in international efforts to eradicate racism, and to implement and ensure observance of the right of peoples to self-determination. Since 1983, the year in which the General Assembly proclaimed the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination by its resolution 38/14, the Czechoslovak mass media had been engaged in an active educational and publicity endeavour to draw attention to the ideas set forth in and the provisions of that resolution. That publicity campaign had culminated in such events as the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples Struggling against Racism and Racial Discrimination, the Week of Solidarity with the People of Namibia, and Human Rights Day. Moreover, attention had not been paid only to South Africa, since specific manifestations of racism in other countries had also been denounced. The Czechoslovak public had been kept informed about the content of the international documents against racism and *apartheid* that had been adopted, both by means of United Nations radio broadcasts and by means of the Czechoslovak mass media. Considerable publicity had been given to the fortieth anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[5] and to the twentieth anniversary of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.[8] Czechoslovakia, which was a party to the Convention, was scrupulously honouring all obligations resulting from its accession to that legal instrument.

91. Now, at a time when there was an unprecedented tendency towards co-operation among nations, international co-operation in combating racism must also be promoted with a view to ensuring speedy and effective eradication of all forms of racism. Significant progress had been made in that regard as a result of the global consultation on racism and racial discrimination held at Geneva in 1988, the important conclusions of which should be further specified and put into practice by States and international organizations.

92. Czechoslovakia had always advocated an increased role for the United Nations in the just settlement of all crises in the world, the persistence of which prolonged the existence of the policy of racism and threatened the independent development of nations.

93. Mr. TREIKI (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) said that the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and the Programme of Action for the Second Decade[6] were very important instruments in the struggle against racism. The international community must support the current Decade in order to strengthen and step up efforts to eliminate *apartheid* and build on the achievements of the first Decade. Although the activities and programmes carried out under the first Decade had had only a limited effect, the public had become more aware of the magnitude and seriousness of the problem and emphasis had been placed on the importance of international co-operation in combating racism. While there had been some successes in the first half of the current Decade, much remained to be done if the objectives of the Decade were to be attained. There were many obstacles to attainment of those objectives since the racist régimes continued to implement their policies in violation of all the relevant international instruments while continuing to receive support from some States that disregarded both the many resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and international condemnations. In South Africa, blacks were regarded as second-class citizens and were denied the most basic human rights. There were thousands of blacks in the white minority régime's prisons, and some had been in prison for over 25 years despite international protests calling for their release.

94. Furthermore, the Palestinian people continued to be the victims of racial discrimination and oppression. Palestinian women and children were attacked with poison gas that led to their death or caused miscarriages. The racist Zionist régime scoffed at the resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council and refused to implement them.

95. Although the activities carried out under the Second Decade had been only partly successful, the importance of such activities and of programmes designed to attain the objectives of the two Decades must not be underestimated; an international endeavour must therefore be made to ensure that the outstanding programmes and activities were carried out. The Libyan Arab Jamahiriya attached great importance to the role of the United Nations in promoting the struggle against the crime of *apartheid* and welcomed, in particular, the efforts undertaken in that connection by United Nations bodies over a period of more than 40 years.

96. The Libyan Arab Jamahiriya had been one of the first States to accede to the international conventions and instruments against *apartheid*, particularly the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[8] and the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of *Apartheid*.[9] Furthermore, it was a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[3] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.[3]

97. His country believed in the principles and precepts of Islam, which categorically rejected all types of racial discrimination and stressed the basic human freedoms,

equality and justice. Libyan national legislation emphasized those principles and upheld them as sacred values. His delegation wished to stress its commitment to the international instruments aimed at combating racism and *apartheid* and to reaffirm its readiness to contribute to all international efforts to implement the Programme of Action for the Second Decade and to any international activities designed to promote the work of the United Nations in that area.

98. Mr. TARMIDZI (Indonesia) said that the General Assembly, in its resolution 43/91, had reaffirmed its determination to eradicate totally racism in all its forms, racial discrimination and *apartheid*. At the present time, when the Organization was close to concluding the plan of activities for the period 1985-1989[17] for the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and was preparing to begin the 1990-1993 phase,[16] much remained to be done in order to achieve the objectives of the Decade. Nevertheless, a number of events had recently taken place which had focused attention on that important issue. Prominent among them was the global consultation on racism and racial discrimination held in October 1988. The note by the Secretary-General on the consultation (E/1989/48) contained valuable conclusions and suggestions. In that connection, he drew the attention of the Economic and Social Council to paragraph 60 (*e*) of the note, according to which the Security Council should continue to consider urgently the imposition of mandatory sanctions, under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, against the *apartheid* régime of South Africa. In view of the continued existence of *apartheid* despite the fact that four decades had elapsed since the adoption of the Charter, Indonesia believed that the time for further consideration had passed and that sanctions should be imposed against the Government in Pretoria.

99. The consultation had also suggested that co-operation and co-ordination should be strengthened with a view to ensuring effective implementation of the Programme of Action. In that regard, Indonesia noted with satisfaction that, as pointed out in paragraph 36 of document E/1989/42, steps had been taken to ensure that the matter continued to receive appropriate consideration by the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination. The consultation had further suggested that young people should be involved in combating racism and racial discrimination. Since young people would be the future leaders of the world, strong support should be given to the ongoing endeavours to mobilize them. He also supported the suggestion in paragraph 60 (*n*) of document E/1989/48 that non-official channels should be used in order to render public opinion more sensitive to racism and racial discrimination. Likewise, efforts should be made to strengthen national legislation on those questions.

100. The dissemination of information continued to be an important means of achieving the objectives of the Second Decade. In that regard, his delegation was pleased that, as indicated in paragraph 67 of document E/1989/42, the Department of Public Information had produced radio features on the Programme of Action for the Second Decade, which had been broadcast in various languages, including Indonesian.

101. In spite of the activities carried out by the international community, the Pretoria régime continued to conduct its racist policy and commit flagrant violations of basic human rights. The intrinsic evil of *apartheid* could not be masked by sham elections or diplomatic manoeuvring. The time had come to put an end to *apartheid* through the imposition of mandatory sanctions against the South African régime.

102. Mr. AGUILAR (Venezuela) said that the principle of social and legal equality without discrimination based on race, sex, creed or social status was embodied in his country's Constitution. In accordance with that spirit, Venezuela was a party to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.[8] The most pernicious and extreme form of racial discrimination was the practice of *apartheid*, which the Government of South Africa had institutionalized as State policy. Since that practice was an affront to human dignity and a challenge to the international community, it must be combated by the adoption of all kinds of measures, such as the comprehensive and mandatory sanctions envisaged under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations.

103. Although in the past 40 years the United Nations had worked untiringly to combat that form of discrimination, the racist Government of Pretoria had, regrettably, ignored that work and all the legal instruments which had been elaborated to combat *apartheid*. Experience had shown that, if the international community acted firmly and in a spirit of solidarity, it could make progress towards eliminating racial discrimination and *apartheid*. In that connection, the forthcoming independence of Namibia clearly demonstrated the progress which could be achieved through co-ordinated and persistent action.

104. Venezuela reaffirmed its support for the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination[6] and felt that its implementation would encourage activities by the international community to eliminate those evils and promote equality among human beings within the framework of the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.[5] The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination should participate in the activities of the Programme of Action. The Committee should also be involved in organizing the seminar to assess experience gained in the implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. Likewise, in connection with the Committee's twentieth anniversary in 1990, a global study should be carried out under its supervision on the extent of dissemination of the Convention, and the study on the progress made towards the achievement of the objectives of the Convention should be updated.

105. His delegation was pleased to note that the work of the Group of Three, established under article IX of the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of *Apartheid*,[9] was helping in an effective manner to achieve the objectives of the Convention. The World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights would highlight the issue of racism and racial discrimination, which would also be dealt with in the meetings to be organized by the Centre for Human Rights in 1989. The Department of Public Information was called upon to carry out essential work in the Campaign, using all the means at its disposal to promote United Nations activities in that important area. Similarly, his delegation recognized the useful co-operation in that regard by the United Nations specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations.

106. He considered that the global consultation on racism

and racial discrimination had been very successful, not only because it had coincided with the fortieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights but also because of its results. In that regard, the suggestion that its conclusions should be disseminated as widely as possible and that another consultation should be held was appropriate. He also supported the suggestion that the Centre for Human Rights should be strengthened so that it could carry out its increasing obligations effectively.

107. Miss BACHTOBJI (Tunisia) said that, in spite of the recent positive developments in international relations, the problems of racism and racial discrimination, including *apartheid*, were impeding progress towards the achievement of international peace and security.

108. The Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination[6] had been an effective framework of action. To date, the implementation of the Programme of Action had made it possible only to improve the situation of the oppressed peoples. Nevertheless, it could be seen that there was a desire to achieve the goals laid down for the second half of the Decade. The international community had made commendable efforts. The global consultation on racism and racial discrimination (see E/1989/48) was a new milestone in such efforts. Her delegation supported the suggestions which had emerged from the consultation that racism and racial discrimination should be referred to as a crime under international law; that the constitutive elements of the heinous policy of *apartheid* should be identified in order to make the fight against that policy more effective; that the United Nations should take all necessary measures to impose mandatory sanctions against South Africa; and that the highest priority should be attached to the implementation of the international instruments pertinent to racism and that accession to those instruments should be encouraged. Tunisia, which was a party to the other conventions in the field, had begun the procedure for ratifying the International Convention against *Apartheid* in Sports.[18]

109. The efforts by the United Nations to combat racism pursued the priority objective of enabling all peoples to exercise the right to self-determination and independence. In addition to the peoples of South Africa and Namibia, there were other people who were still being denied their basic rights—the Palestinian people. The *intifadah*, the uprising, of the Palestinian people demonstrated that only a just solution to the problem would guarantee peace and security in the region.

110. Her delegation supported the suggestion that the United Nations should undertake studies on violations of the human rights of persons belonging to vulnerable groups, such as migrant workers and refugees, and welcomed the measures taken by some specialized agencies to that end.

*The meeting rose at 6.15 p.m.*

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# 11th meeting

**Tuesday, 16 May 1989, at 3.10 p.m.**

*President*: Mr. Kjeld Vilhelm MORTENSEN (Denmark)

E/1989/SR.11

## AGENDA ITEM 1

### Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (*continued*) (E/1989/30)

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA (*continued*)* (E/1989/L.17)

1. Mr. OSMAN (Somalia) introduced draft decision E/1989/L.17 and drew attention to two events which had occurred since the Council had last considered the question of emergency assistance to Somalia: the publication of the interim report of the inter-agency mission that had travelled to the areas of Somalia affected by the emergency situation (A/44/261, annex), which described the assistance Somalia needed to cope with that situation, and the Secretary-General's appeal to the international community to help Somalia satisfy the needs identified by the mission.

2. As the General Assembly had adopted resolution 43/206 on the subject at its forty-third session, there was no need for a formal draft resolution thereon; a reinforcement of that resolution would be sufficient. That was the purpose of draft decision E/1989/L.17. The text was a clear and simple one in which, *inter alia*, the Council expressed its appreciation to the Secretary-General for the efforts he was making to mobilize resources to assist the Government of Somalia in coping with the emergency situation; it also called upon all States and the competent intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to contribute generously to meet Somalia's urgent needs. His delegation was confident that the Council would adopt the draft decision unanimously.

3. Mr. MUKHTAR (Sudan), Mr. MUNTASSER (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya), Mr. GALAL (Observer for Egypt) and Mr. UMER (Observer for Pakistan) supported the proposal that the Council should adopt draft decision E/1989/L.17 unanimously.

## AGENDA ITEM 2

### Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (*continued*) (E/1989/42 and Add.1-3, E/1989/48, E/1989/NGO/2)

4. Dame Ann HERCUS (New Zealand) said it was a deplorable fact that, despite the efforts of the United Nations to combat racism, racial prejudice and discrimination,

*Resumed from the 6th meeting.

those phenomena continued to occur in many parts of the world.

5. The international fight must continue until racism in all its forms was totally eradicated. New Zealand had thus welcomed the launching of the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and fully supported the Decade's aims, particularly the objective of increasing pressure on South Africa to end its odious system of *apartheid*, the most pernicious form of racism.

6. In keeping with its policy of strong and unequivocal opposition to *apartheid*, her country had imposed all the sanctions provided for in Security Council resolutions and Commonwealth recommendations against South Africa. New Zealand had of course taken note of the recent developments in southern Africa and welcomed the progress made towards independence in Namibia. It had therefore co-operated willingly with the United Nations plan and looked forward to the day when Namibia would achieve genuine independence through free elections. However, South Africa's apparent decision to relinquish control over Namibia did not mean that international pressure against South Africa should be lifted. The recent changes in that country were purely cosmetic; the basic problem had not changed. In any event, *apartheid* could not be reformed, only abolished.

7. Knowing that imported oil was indispensable to South Africa, her delegation urged strict compliance with General Assembly resolution 41/35 F in order to maximize the impact of the oil embargo against South Africa. For its part, New Zealand would continue to participate actively in efforts to that end.

8. Although New Zealand's history was not without complications, the efforts of New Zealanders to promote the basic social principles of equality and non-discrimination, particularly since the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi in 1840, had given contemporary New Zealand a multicultural society in which indigenous peoples—the Maori and Pakeha—joined with people from Europe, Asia and the Pacific. That society gladly accepted the challenge of solving problems inherited from the past in order to ensure that a true partnership existed in the future. One of the critical prerequisites for doing so was ensuring the full participation of all in the country's political and cultural life. For that reason, a major restructuring of the Department of Maori Affairs was to be carried out in 1989, and the tribal authorities were to be formally recognized as the Government's agents for the delivery of services and the execution of programmes, an important structural change which promoted justice and equity.

9. The fight against racism in all its forms was an ongoing process which called for flexible responses and policies at both the national and international levels. Her delegation therefore welcomed the renewed emphasis placed on co-ordination of United Nations activities in the context of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination[6] and the holding in 1988 of the global consultation on racism and racial discrimination, which had strengthened the fight against racism in all its forms in both conceptual and practical terms.

10. Mr. PAOLILLO (Uruguay) said that the priority given by the United Nations to consideration of racism and racial discrimination, a priority reiterated in General Assembly resolution 43/91, was self-justified. The international community knew that there could be no human progress of any type as long as vestiges of racism and racial discrimination remained. Broad segments of humanity continued to suffer the effects of racist practices in all their usual forms, including the most brutal and loathsome form, the *apartheid* system. In addition to the usual forms, new types had appeared as the result of phenomena which included increased human movements and an intensification of communications in the modern world. His delegation consequently believed that the massive attack which the United Nations system was waging against the scourge of racism must be steadfastly continued, and noted with satisfaction that the system continued to confront the challenge posed by racism, as evidenced by the report on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (E/1989/42 and Add.1-3[10]).

11. However, racism and racial discrimination were deeply entrenched evils in some societies and one could not expect to eradicate them overnight. His delegation therefore attached particular importance to all efforts which related to the education and training of young people. In that connection, he drew attention to the conclusions and suggestions of the global consultation on racism and racial discrimination (see E/1989/48, annex) concerning co-operation with UNESCO and the adoption of measures to promote the principle of non-discrimination at all levels of education.

12. How effective the United Nations was in the struggle against racism was largely dependent on the co-ordination which existed between the various organs and organizations of the system. His delegation therefore supported the recommendations of the consultation particularly those contained in paragraphs 60 (*f*), (*g*), (*h*) and (*i*) of the report of the consultation (*ibid.*).

13. With regard to the strengthening of national legislation and institutions to prevent racism and the acceptance of international instruments for the elimination of racism and racial discrimination, he noted that Uruguayan legislation made it punishable for anyone to promote racial conflict or hatred. In order to strengthen existing legislation, a bill had recently been brought before the Legislature which modified the Penal Code by making it punishable for anyone publicly to incite discrimination, hostility or violence against one or more persons for reasons of social status, race, religion or ethnic origin. The bill also stipulated that the fact that an offence had been committed out of racial, religious, ethnic or social hatred or contempt would be considered an aggravating circumstance.

14. Uruguay was a party to the main international instruments condemning racism, including the International Convention against *Apartheid* in Sports,[18] and it was the first country to have made the declaration provided for in article 14 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.[8] Uruguay therefore believed that it had the authority to appeal to those countries which were still not parties to such instruments to accede to them. The efficacy of the instruments was contingent on their being universally in force. By making full use of them, the international community could succeed in overcoming the obstinacy of those who persisted in following racist policies and practices.

15. Mr. CHABALA (Zambia) recalled that the General Assembly had, in resolution 38/14 of 22 November 1983, proclaimed the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, and that since then Governments,

non-governmental organizations and individuals the world over had redoubled their efforts to bring about the total elimination of racism and racial discrimination. Nevertheless, those unjust practices still occurred in some parts of the world, notably in South Africa, Namibia and occupied Palestine. It would also be recalled that in 1948, as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[5] was being proclaimed, safeguarding the right to life and the dignity of every human being, South Africa was introducing the abominable *apartheid* system by which the black majority was denied all basic rights. Since then, *apartheid* had continued to be an affront to human dignity and one of the greatest challenges to the United Nations. The time had come for concerted international action such as the imposition of comprehensive mandatory sanctions to bring pressure to bear on the racist régime of South Africa, which had been ignoring the resolutions and decisions of the United Nations. Only pressure would bring about change in the inherently immoral system of *apartheid*.

16. The report of the Secretary-General (E/1989/42 and Add.1-3[10]) should be studied carefully by the Economic and Social Council so that it could make recommendations to the General Assembly. Member States had an obligation to demand that South Africa should end its racist policies and practices. Racial harmony could be attained only if South Africa took the following steps: the repeal of all discriminatory laws; the release of all political prisoners in South Africa, including Nelson Mandela; the lifting of bans on all political parties; and the immediate start of a constitutional process to establish a democratically elected Government.

17. It was a fact that racist South Africa was at war with itself, as it committed acts of oppression against its black majority, including thousands of children under 18 who had been detained since the imposition of a "state of emergency" in June 1986, and systematically employed detention, torture and violence to destroy the opposition, instil fear, paralyse political action and break the will of the activists.

18. Furthermore, South Africa had committed or sponsored aggressive and destabilizing acts against the front-line and other independent African States in the region. The economic costs of those unwarranted acts had from 1980 to 1988 amounted to approximately $44 billion, according to estimates by the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference. The economic destabilization had involved such acts as the blockade of Lesotho, interference with transit shipments to Zambia and Zimbabwe, the destruction of Malawi's external trade routes to the Mozambican ports of Beira and Nacala and the sabotage of critical transport and communications infrastructures in southern Africa. In addition to the extra transport costs of $300 million per year that the land-locked States of the region had to bear, there were the exorbitant expenditures for security by the front-line States, which cut into the resources available for health, education, food and other basic needs.

19. It was therefore evident that there could be no security, peace or development in southern Africa as long as *apartheid* continued to exist. It was incumbent upon the international community to ensure that the oppressed majorities in South Africa and Namibia exercised their inalienable right to self-determination and independence.

20. The international community must also see to it that the Palestinian people attained their legitimate aspirations and inalienable rights in accordance with the pertinent General Assembly resolutions, particularly those referring to the immediate convening of an international peace conference on the Middle East with the participation of all parties concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organization. There could be no solution to the Middle East conflict without a just and lasting solution to the problem of Palestine.

21. Mr. ORTIZ GANDARILLAS (Bolivia) said that distorted ideas and negative attitudes had to be overcome if racism and racial discrimination were to be eradicated. At the current stage, simply to condemn such anachronis s was not enough; new action-oriented ideas were needed that would promote a change of attitudes through intellectual development and the practice of the ethical values and political principles embodied in the various international instruments such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[5] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[3] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[3] and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.[8] In addition, an attitude of understanding and tolerance had to be adopted that would enable all to accept and practise the principles of equality, freedom and respect for every human being. Adequate information and education would play a major role there.

22. In the broad context of racial discrimination, there was an even uglier reality that troubled the civilized conscience of the international community: the policy and practice of *apartheid* in South Africa, an anachronistic phenomenon and the expression of a racism that must be eliminated and replaced by a system of freedom and equality. It was encouraging to see the independence process in Namibia moving ahead and to observe the international community's growing opposition to all forms of racial discrimination. Important in that connection were the conclusions and suggestions of the global consultation on racism and racial discrimination (see E/1989/48, annex).

23. His delegation reiterated its support for the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination[6] and for the plan of activities for the period 1990-1993.[16] Among those activities should be singled out the international campaign on the main obstacles to the full eradication of racism, racial discrimination and *apartheid*, as well as the assessment of the impact of the steps taken to that end on the implementation of the various conventions on those questions.

24. His Government, in keeping with its policy of opposition to racism, racial discrimination and *apartheid* and in spite of the financial crisis it was experiencing, had, in February 1989, paid all its dues as a State party to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, including the 1989 assessment.

25. Mr. ZAWACKI (Poland) affirmed that racism and racial discrimination represented a denial of human dignity and in many cases led inevitably to human rights violations such as torture and detention or illegal execution. The elimination of those loathsome practices required unanimous effort on the part of the international community. For almost 40 years, racism and racial discrimination had been a subject of debate in the United Nations and other international organizations and conferences. The results were far from satisfactory, especially when it came to *apartheid*, a racist doctrine that negated the principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

26. South Africa was the only country in the world that maintained institutionalized racial discrimination in its constitution and its laws. Despite universal condemnation, the system was still alive. The Pretoria régime, in flagrant violation of United Nations resolutions and decisions, had unleashed a spiral of terror and repression in order to preserve its diabolical system. It was clear that the only way to compel South Africa to abandon its *apartheid* policy was to adopt severe international measures such as the application of comprehensive mandatory sanctions.

27. Poland had repeatedly stated its position against racism, racial discrimination and *apartheid*, and it complied with all United Nations resolutions and decisions. It had acceded to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[8] and did not maintain political, economic or any other kind of relations with South Africa. Poland condemned the political, military and economic assistance which certain countries and transnational corporations gave to Pretoria, and it supported the immediate imposition of sanctions against South Africa. Poland expressed its solidarity with all those who fought for the elimination of *apartheid* and racial discrimination.

28. The total elimination of those evils depended on the universal ratification and strict observance of the relevant instruments, such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, upon which the activities of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination were based. The critical financial situation of that Committee had adversely affected its ability to carry out its mandate under the Convention. Poland called upon States parties to meet their commitments in order to enable the Committee to overcome its current crisis. It also called upon States which had not yet done so, particularly those States which had jurisdiction over the transnational corporations which continued to operate in South Africa and Namibia, to accede to the Convention.

29. Poland fully supported the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.[6] It commended the Secretary-General for holding the global consultation on racism and racial discrimination, the conclusions and suggestions of which would have considerable influence on the work of the United Nations, and for submitting his comprehensive and detailed report on the implementation of the Programme of Action (E/1989/42 and Add.1-3[10]).

30. The finalization, in the current year, of the compilation of national legislation against racial discrimination would be an important part of the activities of the Decade and would enable each country to assess the way in which other countries used their legislation to combat racial discrimination.

31. Mr. PINZON (Colombia) said that Colombia—a democratic and peace-loving country in which various ethnic groups intermixed—had condemned, in all international forums and bodies, South Africa's repugnant racial discrimination. He reaffirmed his country's solidarity with the South African people in their struggle to end the *apartheid* system. He commended the United Nations for its efforts to combat that disgrace, which led to such achievements as the proclamation of the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, and the consensus which the General Assembly had reached on that issue at its most recent session. Lastly, he reaffirmed the principles which Colombia followed in that area and added his voice to those which had rejected all discriminatory practices which violated basic human rights.

32. Mr. GALAL (Observer for Egypt) said that the Constitution and the legislation of his country proclaimed full equality of rights for all. Egypt categorically rejected any form of discrimination based on race, religion and belief or on any other grounds, as well as the establishment of a State on the basis of the racial superiority of a "chosen people".

33. The international community continued to suffer the consequences of colonialism in both its old and its new forms, of feelings of superiority and of the desire to control peoples in order to seize their economic resources and destroy their cultures, their national character and their religions. A resolute position should therefore be taken against all States which defended racial superiority and racism. In that regard, UNESCO should establish contact with all countries so that the latter could revise their academic programmes with a view to eliminating from them concepts based on the superiority of one people over another or on racial discrimination.

34. Global consultations on racism and racial discrimination should be a continuous process and not isolated events and should be held in all regions with the participation of all sectors of society and not be limited only to intellectual circles.

35. The denial of the right of peoples to self-determination was the most odious form of racial discrimination. In that regard, it was important that the Palestinian people should gain recognition of their legitimate rights, the most important of which was the right to self-determination and the right to the establishment of an independent State. The presence of Israel in Arab holy places and in the occupied Arab territories constituted a rejection of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,[19] as well as a violation of human rights, including the freedom of religion and conscience.

36. Egypt commended the non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, which were engaged in a determined struggle against racial discrimination in South Africa. The international community should join forces to eliminate that odious régime and support the legitimate rights of the South African people.

37. Mrs. SILVERA NUÑEZ (Cuba) said that legislation in force in Cuba condemned any kind of action inspired by racism or discrimination. Cuba had systematically supported all the decisions of international bodies, the principal objective of which was to condemn racial or discriminatory policies and practices. In addition, Cuba was a party to existing international instruments on that issue and had brought its laws into conformity with those instruments.

38. During the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, the Cuban Government had adopted specific measures to support the activities of the international community and international organizations in their struggle against *apartheid*. Such measures included the establishment of the Cuban Anti-*Apartheid* Committee, the conferring of the title of doctor *honoris causa* upon Nelson Mandela by the University of Havana, the holding of a round-table meeting in honour of Mandela, with the participation of the Special Committee against *Apartheid*, and the holding of various ceremonies in ob-

servance of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

39. The Cuban people did not practise racism and discrimination, and Cuba rejected all philosophies based on racial segregation. In its resolute rejection of *apartheid*, Cuba had maintained a consistent policy of assistance to and co-operation with the South African people, *inter alia*, through the granting of fellowships to students from South Africa, Namibia and the front-line States.

40. Cuba had also contributed to the implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978) for the independence of Namibia through the participation of Cuban internationalist troops, which had defended the sovereignty of the People's Republic of Angola together with the valiant armed forces of that country, and which, with the victory of Cuito Cuanavale over the South African army, had paved the way for the negotiations which had led to the signing on 22 December 1988, in New York, of the tripartite agreement between Angola, Cuba and South Africa. Cuba had continued to reaffirm its wish to achieve a negotiated solution which would guarantee the security of Angola and the independence of Namibia and to contribute constructively to such a solution by fulfilling its commitments under Security Council resolution 435 (1978) in a responsible and serious manner. Cuba participated in the Joint Commission established in connection with the tripartite agreement (see A/43/964-S/20325 and A/43/989-S/20346).

41. She wished to emphasize Cuba's solidarity with, and to reaffirm Cuba's full and firm support for, the heroic combatants of ANC and SWAPO. The Cuban Government accorded high priority to freedom for the oppressed peoples of southern Africa, to the elimination of racism and colonialism in Namibia and South Africa and to the creation of the minimum conditions required in order to enable the black majority to take charge of its own destiny in peace, justice and equality and to have full use of and sovereignty over its national wealth and resources, which were being plundered by transnational corporations and the States which supported *apartheid*.

42. Moreover, the international community should consider, as a matter of urgency, the situation of the Palestinian people in the Israeli-occupied Arab territories, where a racist policy was also being implemented. Cuba reaffirmed its support for the Palestinian people and its sole legitimate representative, the PLO, in its struggle for the liberation of its homeland and the recovery of its inalienable national rights.

43. It was imperative that more measures which had the support of the international community and the United Nations should be carried out with a view to eliminating the discriminatory policies and practices which persisted in various parts of the world.

*The meeting rose at 4.30 p.m.*

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# 12th meeting

**Monday, 22 May 1989, at 3.15 p.m.**

*President*: Mr. Kjeld Vilhelm MORTENSEN (Denmark)

E/1989/SR.12

## AGENDA ITEM 1

### Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (*continued*)

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA (*concluded*) (E/1989/L.17)

1. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft decision E/1989/L.17, entitled "Emergency assistance to Somalia".

2. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft decision.

*The draft decision was adopted* (decision 1989/111).

3. Mr. OSMAN (Somalia) emphasized the need for States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to help to meet the needs reported by the United Nations inter-agency mission that had visited his country. A follow-up study of the situation in the southern provinces also needed to be carried out, with a view, notably, to the repair, rehabilitation and reconstruction of housing and public facilities destroyed in attacks by armed brigands.

4. The PRESIDENT announced that the Council had concluded its consideration of the item.

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO THE SUDAN (*concluded*)*

5. Mr. MUKHTAR (Sudan) said that rain and floods had left vast numbers of people in his country in danger of famine. The situation would get worse, especially in the south of the country, unless appropriate action was taken before the next rains. The international community must commit itself to helping the Sudan, the Government of which had put forward a peace initiative in order to rebuild the country. The efforts by the United Nations to bring about a cease-fire in the regions most severely damaged by natural disasters deserved praise, for they would help to alleviate the current difficult situation.

6. The PRESIDENT said that, in the absence of any proposal on the question, he would take it that the Council was prepared to take note of the statement made by the representative of the Secretary-General at the 6th meeting.

*It was so decided* (decision 1989/112).

7. The PRESIDENT announced that the Council had concluded its consideration of the item.

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*Resumed from the 6th meeting.

## AGENDA ITEM 2

**Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (*continued*) (E/1989/42 and Add.1-3, E/1989/48, E/1989/NGO/2)**

DRAFT RESOLUTION E/1989/L.18

8. Mr. OUALI (Observer for Burkina Faso), speaking on behalf of the African States, introduced draft resolution E/1989/L.18. He said that the title of the draft resolution was the same as the title of the item and that the text was very similar to the resolution on the same subject adopted by the General Assembly at its forty-third session as resolution 43/91. Paragraphs 3 and 8 were new, but did not change anything of substance; in addition, they had met with the approval of the members of the Council. It was to be hoped, therefore, that the Council would adopt the draft by consensus.

## AGENDA ITEM 4

**United Nations University (E/1989/37, E/1989/83)**

REPORT OF THE FIRST (ECONOMIC) COMMITTEE (E/1989/83)

9. The PRESIDENT said that the Council had before it the report of the First (Economic) Committee (E/1989/83) on agenda item 4, which had been allocated to the Committee for its consideration. In paragraph 5 of the report, the Committee recommended a draft decision entitled "Report of the Council of the United Nations University" for adoption by the Council.

10. If he heard no objections, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft decision.

*The draft decision was adopted* (decision 1989/113).

11. The PRESIDENT announced that the Council had concluded its consideration of item 4.

## AGENDA ITEM 5

**Public administration and finance**

REPORT OF THE FIRST (ECONOMIC) COMMITTEE (E/1989/84)

12. The PRESIDENT said that the Council had before it the report of the First (Economic) Committee (E/1989/84) on agenda item 5, which had been allocated to the Committee for its consideration. In paragraph 7 of the report, the Committee recommended a draft decision entitled "Tenth Meeting of Experts on the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance" for adoption by the Council.

13. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft decision.

*The draft decision was adopted* (decision 1989/114).

14. The PRESIDENT said that the Council had concluded its consideration of agenda item 5.

## AGENDA ITEM 6

**Statistical and cartographic questions**

**(*a*) Statistics (E/1989/21, E/1989/85)**

**(*b*) Cartography (E/1989/44 and Add.1, E/1989/85)**

REPORT OF THE FIRST (ECONOMIC) COMMITTEE (E/1989/85)

15. The PRESIDENT said that the Council had before it the report of the First (Economic) Committee (E/1989/85) on agenda item 6, which had been allocated to the Committee for its consideration. In paragraph 13 of the report, the Committee recommended for adoption by the Council two draft resolutions which had been recommended originally by the Statistical Commission in the report on its twenty-fifth session (E/1989/21, para. 1).

16. He invited the Council to take action on draft resolution I, entitled "International economic classifications".

17. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt draft resolution I.

*The draft resolution was adopted* (resolution 1989/3).

18. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft resolution II, entitled "Patterns of consumption and qualitative indicators of development".

19. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt draft resolution II.

*The draft resolution was adopted* (resolution 1989/4).

20. The PRESIDENT said that the First (Economic) Committee, in paragraph 14 of its report (E/1989/85), recommended two draft decisions for adoption by the Council. The first draft decision had been recommended originally by the Statistical Commission in its report (E/1989/21, para. 2).

21. He invited the Council to take action on draft decision I, entitled "Report of the Statistical Commission on its twenty-fifth session and provisional agenda and documentation for the twenty-sixth session of the Commission".

22. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt draft decision I.

*The draft decision was adopted* (decision 1989/115).

23. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft decision II, entitled "Fourth and Fifth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conferences for the Americas".

24. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt draft decision II.

*The draft decision was adopted* (decision 1989/116).

25. The PRESIDENT said that the Council had concluded its consideration of agenda item 6.

## AGENDA ITEM 7

**Natural resources (E/1989/26, E/1989/86)**

REPORT OF THE FIRST (ECONOMIC) COMMITTEE (E/1989/86)

26. The PRESIDENT said that the Council had before it the report of the First (Economic) Committee (E/1989/86) on agenda item 7, which had been allocated to the Committee for its consideration. In paragraph 14 of the report, the Committee recommended for adoption by the Council

draft resolutions I to VIII, originally recommended by the Committee on Natural Resources in the report on its eleventh session (E/1989/26, para. 1).

27. He invited the Council to take action on draft resolution I, entitled "Trends and salient issues in the development of mineral resources, especially small-scale mining".

28. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt draft resolution I.

*The draft resolution was adopted* (resolution 1989/5).

29. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft resolution II, entitled "Development of energy resources and efficient use of energy production and utilization infrastructures".

30. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt draft resolution II.

*The draft resolution was adopted* (resolution 1989/6).

31. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft resolution III, entitled "Water resources and progress in the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan".

32. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt draft resolution III.

*The draft resolution was adopted* (resolution 1989/7).

33. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft resolution IV, entitled "New techniques, including remote sensing, for identifying, exploring for and assessing natural resources".

34. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt draft resolution IV.

*The draft resolution was adopted* (resolution 1989/8).

35. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft resolution V, entitled "United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration".

36. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt draft resolution V.

*The draft resolution was adopted* (resolution 1989/9).

37. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft resolution VI, entitled "Permanent sovereignty over natural resources".

38. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt draft resolution VI.

*The draft resolution was adopted* (resolution 1989/10).

39. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft resolution VII, entitled "Impact of financial constraints on the development, conservation and maintenance of the natural resources and related infrastructure in developing countries".

40. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt draft resolution VII.

*The draft resolution was adopted* (resolution 1989/11).

41. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft resolution VIII, entitled "Co-ordination of programmes within the United Nations system in the field of natural resources".

42. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt draft resolution VIII.

*The draft resolution was adopted* (resolution 1989/12).

43. The PRESIDENT said that the First (Economic) Committee, in paragraph 15 of its report (E/1989/86), also recommended for adoption by the Council a draft decision, originally recommended by the Committee on Natural Resources in the report on its eleventh session (E/1989/26, para. 2), relating to that report and to the provisional agenda and documentation for the twelfth session of the Committee.

44. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft decision.

*The draft decision was adopted* (decision 1989/117).

45. The PRESIDENT said that the Council had concluded its consideration of agenda item 7.

## AGENDA ITEM 12

### Narcotic drugs (E/1989/23, E/1989/76)

REPORT OF THE SECOND (SOCIAL) COMMITTEE (E/1989/76)

46. The PRESIDENT said that the Council had before it the report of the Second (Social) Committee (E/1989/76) on agenda item 12, which had been allocated to the Committee for its consideration. In paragraph 26 of the report, the Committee recommends for adoption by the Council draft resolutions I to VII, the first six of which had been recommended originally by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in the report on its thirty-third session (E/1989/23, chap. I).

47. He invited the Council to take action on draft resolution I, entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances".

48. Miss FOSTIER (Observer for Belgium) announced that her country had signed the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances that very day. Belgium not only monitored the manufacture of drugs for licit purposes, an area in which it was a world leader, but also attached great importance to the control of traffic in illicit substances. It had participated actively in the conference of plenipotentiaries convened by the United Nations in Vienna from 25 November to 20 December 1988, and had immediately signed the Final Act of the Conference. Moreover, it had been a sponsor of draft decision VII.

49. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt draft resolution I.

*The draft resolution was adopted* (resolution 1989/13).

50. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft resolution II, entitled "Intensification and coordination of measures for reduction of the illicit demand for narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances".

51. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt draft resolution II.

*The draft resolution was adopted* (resolution 1989/14).

52. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft resolution III, entitled "Demand and supply of opiates for medical and scientific purposes".

53. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt draft resolution III.

*The draft resolution was adopted* (resolution 1989/15).

54. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft resolution IV, entitled "Contribution of the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control to the fight against illicit traffic in and abuse of drugs".

55. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt draft resolution IV.

*The draft resolution was adopted* (resolution 1989/16).

56. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft resolution V, entitled "Special session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs".

57. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt draft resolution V.

*The draft resolution was adopted* (resolution 1989/17).

58. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft resolution VI, entitled "Allocation of appropriate resources and priority to the international drug control programme".

59. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt draft resolution VI.

*The draft resolution was adopted* (resolution 1989/18).

60. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft resolution VII, entitled "Provisional application of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances".

61. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt draft resolution VII.

*The draft resolution was adopted* (resolution 1989/19).

62. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft resolution VIII, entitled "International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking".

63. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt draft resolution VIII.

*The draft resolution was adopted* (resolution 1989/20).

64. The PRESIDENT said that the Second (Social) Committee, in paragraph 27 of its report (E/1989/76), recommended for adoption by the Council draft resolutions I to VI, the first five of which had been recommended originally by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in its report (E/1989/23, chap. I).

65. He invited the Council to take action on draft decision I, entitled "Provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-fourth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs".

66. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt draft decision I.

*The draft decision was adopted* (decision 1989/118).

67. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft decision II, entitled "Provisional agenda and documentation for the eleventh special session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs".

68. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt draft decision II.

*The draft decision was adopted* (decision 1989/119).

69. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft decision III, entitled "Membership of the Sub-Commission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East".

70. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt draft decision III.

*The draft decision was adopted* (decision 1989/120).

71. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft decision IV, entitled "Report of the International Narcotics Control Board".

72. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt draft decision IV.

*The draft decision was adopted* (decision 1989/121).

73. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft decision V, entitled "Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs".

74. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt draft decision V.

*The draft decision was adopted* (decision 1989/122).

75. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft decision VI, entitled "Drug addiction among children".

76. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt draft decision VI.

*The draft decision was adopted* (decision 1989/123).

77. The PRESIDENT announced that the Council had completed consideration of agenda item 12.

*The meeting rose at 3.50 p.m.*

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# 13th meeting

**Tuesday, 23 May 1989, at 10.25 a.m.**

*President*: Mr. Kjeld Vilhelm MORTENSEN (Denmark)

E/1989/SR.13

## AGENDA ITEM 13

### Elections and nominations

STATISTICAL COMMISSION (E/1989/L.1)

1. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect eight members of the Statistical Commission for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1990.

2. Ms. CONDEVAUX (Assistant Secretary of the Council) said that Kenya, Togo and Zambia had been endorsed by their regional group for the three vacancies to be filled by African States; the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics had been endorsed for the vacancy to be filled by an Eastern European State; and Argentina had been endorsed for the vacancy to be filled by the Latin American and Caribbean States. France, the Federal Republic of Germany, the Netherlands, Spain and Turkey were candidates for the three vacancies to be filled by Western European and other States.

2. The PRESIDENT said that, since the nominees of the Groups of African, Eastern European, and Latin American and Caribbean States equalled the number of vacancies to

be filled from those groups, he would take it that the Council wished to elect them by acclamation.

*It was so decided.**

4. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect by secret ballot three members from the Group of Western European and other States.

*At the invitation of the President, Mr. Alhassane (Niger) and Mr. Sylvester (Belize) acted as tellers.*

*A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

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|---|---|
| *Number of ballot papers*: | 54 |
| *Invalid ballots*: | 1 |
| *Number of valid ballots*: | 53 |
| *Abstentions*: | 0 |
| *Number of members voting*: | 53 |
| *Required majority*: | 27 |
| *Number of votes obtained*: | |
| France | 46 |
| Germany, Federal Republic of | 39 |
| Netherlands | 30 |
| Spain | 29 |
| Turkey | 13 |

*Having obtained the required majority and the largest number of votes, France, the Federal Republic of Germany and the Netherlands were elected members of the Statistical Commission for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1990.**

POPULATION COMMISSION (E/1989/L.1)

5. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect nine members of the Population Commission for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1990.

6. Ms. CONDEVAUX (Assistant Secretary of the Council) said that the respective regional groups had endorsed the candidacies of Botswana for one of the two vacancies to be filled by African States; China and the Islamic Republic of Iran for the two vacancies to be filled by Asian States; the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics for the vacancy to be filled by an Eastern European State; Mexico for one of the two vacancies to be filled by Latin American and Caribbean States; and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America for the two vacancies to be filled by Western European and other States.

7. The PRESIDENT said that, since the number of nominees endorsed by the regional groups was equal to or less than the number of vacancies, he would take it that the Council wished to elect the nominees by acclamation and postpone to a later stage the elections for the remaining vacancies to be filled by the Groups of African and Latin American and Caribbean States.

*It was so decided.**

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS (E/1989/L.1)

8. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect 14 members of the Commission on Human Rights for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1990.

9. Ms. CONDEVAUX (Assistant Secretary of the Council) said that the respective regional groups had endorsed the candidacies of Ghana, Madagascar, Senegal and Somalia for the four vacancies to be filled by African States; Hungary and Yugoslavia for the two vacancies to be filled by Eastern European States; and Brazil and Mexico for the two vacancies to be filled by Latin American and Caribbean States. The Secretariat had been notified that Togo was also a candidate for one of the four vacancies to be filled by African States. The Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Pakistan, the Philippines and the Syrian Arab Republic were candidates for the three vacancies to be filled by Asian States, and Austria, France, Italy and the United States of America were candidates for the three vacancies to be filled by Western European and other States.

10. The PRESIDENT said that, since the number of candidates for the vacancies to be filled by the Groups of Eastern European and Latin American and Caribbean States was equal to the number of vacancies, he would take it that the Council wished to elect those candidates by acclamation.

*It was so decided.**

11. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect by secret ballot four members from the Group of African States, three from the Group of Asian States and three from the Group of Western European and other States.

*At the invitation of the President, Mr. Rysinski (Poland) and Mr. Grillo (Colombia) acted as tellers.*

*A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

| | |
|---|---|
| *Number of ballot papers*: | 54 |
| *Invalid ballots*: | 0 |
| *Number of valid ballots*: | 54 |
| *Abstentions*: | 0 |
| *Number of members voting*: | 54 |
| *Required majority*: | 28 |
| *Number of votes obtained*: | |
| *African States* | |
| Ghana | 50 |
| Senegal | 45 |
| Madagascar | 44 |
| Somalia | 43 |
| Togo | 20 |

*Having obtained the required majority, Ghana, Madagascar, Senegal and Somalia were elected members of the Commission on Human Rights for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1990.**

| | |
|---|---|
| *Asian States* | |
| Pakistan | 40 |
| Philippines | 36 |
| Iraq | 28 |
| Syrian Arab Republic | 26 |
| Iran, Islamic Republic of | 9 |

*Having obtained the required majority, Iraq, Pakistan and the Philippines were elected members of the Commission on Human Rights for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1990.**

| | |
|---|---|
| *Western European and other States* | |
| France | 47 |
| Italy | 44 |
| United States of America | 33 |
| Austria | 31 |

*Having obtained the required majority and the largest number of votes, France, Italy and the United States of America were elected members of the Commission on Human Rights for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1990.**

*See decision 1989/160.

COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS (E/1989/L.1)

12. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect 20 members of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1990.

13. Ms. CONDEVAUX (Assistant Secretary of the Council) said that the Secretariat had been informed that the following States were candidates for the Commission: Gambia, Ghana, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and Senegal for the four vacancies to be filled by African States; Bulgaria, Hungary and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics for the three vacancies to be filled by Eastern European States; and the Bahamas, Colombia, Ecuador and Mexico for the four vacancies to be filled by Latin American and Caribbean States.

14. The PRESIDENT said that, since the number of candidates for vacancies to be filled by the Groups of African, Eastern European and Latin American and Caribbean States was equal to the number of vacancies, he would take it that the Council wished to elect the nominees by acclamation.

*It was so decided.**

15. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect by secret ballot four members from the Group of Asian States and five members from the Group of Western European and other States.

*At the invitation of the President, Mr. Alhassane (Niger) and Mr. Sylvester (Belize) acted as tellers.*

*A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

| | |
|---|---|
| *Number of ballot papers*: | 54 |
| *Invalid ballots*: | 0 |
| *Number of valid ballots*: | 54 |
| *Abstentions*: | 0 |
| *Number of members voting*: | 54 |
| *Required majority*: | 28 |
| *Number of votes obtained*: | |
| *Asian States* | |
| Japan | 48 |
| China | 47 |
| Indonesia | 42 |
| Malaysia | 32 |
| Sri Lanka | 26 |
| Iran, Islamic Republic of | 14 |

*Having obtained the required majority, China, Indonesia, Japan and Malaysia were elected members of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1990.**

| | |
|---|---|
| *Western European and other States* | |
| United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland | 49 |
| Australia | 45 |
| Spain | 45 |
| Sweden | 42 |
| Belgium | 41 |
| Turkey | 40 |

*Having obtained the required majority and the largest number of votes, Australia, Belgium, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland were elected members of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1990.*

*See decision 1989/160.

COMMISSION ON TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS (E/1989/L.2)

16. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect 16 members of the Commission on Transnational Corporations for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1990.

17. Ms. CONDEVAUX (Assistant Secretary of the Council) said that the respective regional groups had endorsed the following candidates for membership on the Commission: Egypt, Sierra Leone, Tunisia and Zimbabwe for the four vacancies to be filled by African States; China, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Japan for three of the four vacancies to be filled by Asian States; Czechoslovakia and the German Democratic Republic for the two vacancies to be filled by Eastern European States; Uruguay for one of the three vacancies to be filled by Latin American and Caribbean States; and France, the Federal Republic of Germany and Switzerland for the three vacancies to be filled by Western European and other States.

18. The PRESIDENT said that since the number of candidates in each Group was equal to or less than the number of vacancies in each Group, he would take it that the Council wished to elect by acclamation the nominees proposed by the Groups and to postpone to a later stage the election of one member from the Asian States and two members from the Latin American and Caribbean States.

*It was so decided.**

19. The PRESIDENT, referring to elections postponed from previous sessions, said that he would take it that the Council wished to elect Zaire, whose candidature had been proposed by the Group of African States for a term beginning on 1 January 1990 and expiring on 31 December 1991.

*It was so decided.**

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND (E/1989/L.3)

20. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect 10 members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund for a three-year term beginning on 1 August 1989.

21. Ms. CONDEVAUX (Assistant Secretary of the Council) said that the following candidates had been endorsed by their respective regional groups for membership on the Executive Board: Zimbabwe for the vacancy to be filled by an African State; China and Thailand for the two vacancies to be filled by Asian States; Poland for the vacancy to be filled by an Eastern European State; and Canada, Finland, the Federal Republic of Germany and the Netherlands for the four vacancies to be filled by Western European and other States. Barbados, Costa Rica and Peru were candidates for the two vacancies to be filled by Latin American and Caribbean States.

22. The PRESIDENT said that, since the number of candidates from the Groups of African, Asian, Eastern European and Western European and other States was equal to the number of vacancies for those Groups, he would take it that the Council wished to elect the nominees by acclamation.

*It was so decided.**

23. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect by secret ballot two members from the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States.

*At the invitation of the President, Mr. Rysinski (Poland) and Mr. Minagawa (Japan) acted as tellers.*

*A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

| | |
|---|---|
| *Number of ballot papers*: | 54 |
| *Invalid ballots*: | 0 |
| *Number of valid ballots*: | 54 |
| *Abstentions*: | 0 |
| *Number of members voting*: | 54 |
| *Required majority*: | 28 |
| *Number of votes obtained*: | |
| Peru | 41 |
| Barbados | 35 |
| Costa Rica | 26 |

*Having obtained the required majority, Barbados and Peru were elected members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund for a three-year term beginning on 1 August 1989.**

GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (E/1989/L.7)

24. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect 16 members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme for a three-year term beginning on the first day of the organizational meeting for 1990 of the Governing Council in February.

25. Ms. CONDEVAUX (Assistant Secretary of the Council) said that the following candidates had been endorsed by their respective regional groups for the Governing Council: Djibouti, Mauritania and Nigeria for the three vacancies to be filled by African States; Bulgaria and Poland for the two vacancies to be filled by Eastern European States; and Guyana, Uruguay and Venezuela for the three vacancies to be filled by Latin American and Caribbean States. India, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea and Sri Lanka were candidates for the three vacancies to be filled by Asian States and Yugoslavia; and Denmark, the Federal Republic of Germany, the Netherlands, Portugal, Switzerland and Turkey for the five vacancies to be filled by Western European and other States.

26. The PRESIDENT said that since the number of candidates from the Groups of African, Eastern European and Latin American and Caribbean States was equal to the number of vacancies for those Groups, he would take it that the Council wished to elect the candidates by acclamation.

*It was so decided.**

27. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect by secret ballot three members from Asian States and Yugoslavia and five members from Western European and other States.

*At the invitation of the President, Mr. Sylvester (Belize) and Mrs. Mbella Ngomba (Cameroon) acted as tellers.*

*A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

| | |
|---|---|
| *Number of ballot papers*: | 54 |
| *Invalid ballots*: | 0 |
| *Number of valid ballots*: | 54 |
| *Abstentions*: | 0 |
| *Number of members voting*: | 54 |
| *Required majority*: | 28 |
| *Number of votes obtained*: | |
| *Asian States and Yugoslavia* | |
| India | 44 |
| Malaysia | 39 |
| Sri Lanka | 35 |
| Papua New Guinea | 23 |
| Iran, Islamic Republic of | 12 |
| *Western European and other States* | |
| Germany, Federal Republic of | 52 |
| Denmark | 51 |
| Portugal | 50 |
| Netherlands | 43 |
| Switzerland | 38 |
| Turkey | 25 |

*Having obtained the required majority, Denmark, the Federal Republic of Germany, India, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Portugal, Sri Lanka and Switzerland were elected members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme for a three-year term beginning on the first day of the organizational meeting for 1990 of the Governing Council in February.**

COMMITTEE ON FOOD AID POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES (E/1989/L.6)

28. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect five members of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1990.

29. Ms. CONDEVAUX (Assistant Secretary of the Council) said that the following candidates had been endorsed by their regional groups for the Committee: the Sudan for the vacancy to be filled by the African States; India for the vacancy to be filled by the Asian States; Hungary for the vacancy to be filled by the Eastern European States; and Finland and Italy for the two vacancies to be filled by the Western European and other States.

30. The PRESIDENT said that since the number of candidates endorsed by the Groups of African, Asian, Eastern European and Western European and other States was equal to the number of vacancies for those Groups, he would take it that the Council wished to elect the candidates by acclamation.

*It was so decided.**

NOMINATION OF MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND CO-ORDINATION (E/1989/L.5)

31. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to nominate seven candidates for election to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination by the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session. The term of office was three years, beginning on 1 January 1990. Information concerning the nominations was contained in document E/1989/L.5.

32. Ms. CONDEVAUX (Assistant Secretary of the Council) said that the following candidates had been endorsed by their regional groups: Algeria, Cameroon and Morocco for the three vacancies to be filled by African States; China, Japan and Sri Lanka for the three vacancies to be filled by Asian States; and Argentina for the vacancy to be filled by Latin American and Caribbean States.

33. The PRESIDENT said that, since the number of candidates proposed by each Group was equal to the number of vacancies, he would take it that the Council wished to nominate those candidates for election by the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session.

*It was so decided.**

*See decision 1989/160.

NOMINATION OF MEMBERS OF THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL (E/1989/L.4)

34. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to nominate 12 candidates for election to the World Food Council by the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session. The term of office was three years, beginning on 1 January 1990. Information concerning the nominations was contained in document E/1989/L.4.

35. Ms. CONDEVAUX (Assistant Secretary of the Council) said that the following candidates had been endorsed by their respective regional groups: Burundi, Egypt and Rwanda for the three vacancies to be filled by African States; Democratic Yemen, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Japan for the three vacancies to be filled by Asian States; Hungary for the vacancy to be filled by Eastern European States; Argentina and Peru for the two vacancies to be filled by Latin American and Caribbean States; and Denmark, France and Italy for the three vacancies to be filled by Western European and other States.

36. The PRESIDENT said that, since the number of candidates was equal to the number of vacancies in each Group, he would take it that the Council wished to submit the nominations proposed by those Groups to the General Assembly for election at the forty-fourth session.

*It was so decided.**

CONFIRMATION OF NOMINATIONS TO THE UNITED NATIONS RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT (E/1989/25, chap. I, sect. C)

37. The PRESIDENT drew attention to decision 31/101 of the Commission for Social Development, contained in chapter I, section C, of its report (E/1989/25), in which the Commission had decided to submit the names of candidates for membership on the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development for confirmation by the Council.

38. Ms. CONDEVAUX (Assistant Secretary of the Council) said that the Commission had nominated the following candidates for confirmation by the Council: Ms. O'Neil (Canada) and Ms. Eide (Norway) for a four-year term beginning on 1 July 1989; and Mr. Abdalla (Egypt), Mr. Aziz (Pakistan), Ms. Cok (Yugoslavia) and Mr. Emmerij (Netherlands) for an additional two-year term beginning on 1 July 1989.

39. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to confirm those nominations.

*It was so decided.**

ELECTIONS POSTPONED FROM PREVIOUS SESSIONS (E/1989/30, para. 59)

40. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the vacancies in subsidiary bodies for which elections had been postponed from previous sessions, as listed in the annotations to agenda item 13 (E/1989/30, para. 59). He recalled that the Council had already taken action in connection with the Commission on Transnational Corporations (see para. 19 above).

COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

41. The PRESIDENT said that the Secretariat had been informed that the candidature of Burundi had been endorsed by the Group of African States to fill the vacancy from that Group for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1992. If he heard no objections, he would take it that the Council wished to elect Burundi by acclamation.

*It was so decided.**

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

42. The PRESIDENT said that the Secretariat had been informed that the candidature of Tunisia had been endorsed by the Group of African States to fill one vacancy from that Group for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1992.

43. If he heard no objections, he would take it that the Council wished to elect Tunisia by acclamation.

*It was so decided.**

44. If there were no additional candidatures, he proposed that elections to fill the remaining vacancies in the Committee on Natural Resources should be postponed to a later session.

*It was so decided.**

INTERGOVERNMENTAL WORKING GROUP OF EXPERTS ON INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS OF ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING

45. The PRESIDENT said that the Secretariat had been informed that the candidatures of Argentina, Chile and Peru had been endorsed by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States to fill three vacancies from that Group for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1991. If he heard no objections, he would take it that the Council wished to elect Argentina, Chile and Peru by acclamation.

*It was so decided.**

46. If there were no additional candidatures, he proposed that elections to fill the remaining vacancies in the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts should be postponed to a later session.

*It was so decided.**

INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD (E/1989/4, E/1989/50/Rev.1, E/1989/51 and Add.1-4)

47. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect six members of the International Narcotics Control Board for a five-year term beginning on 2 March 1990. In accordance with article 9, paragraphs 1 (*a*) and (*b*), of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol Amending the Single Convention,[20] one member was to be elected from among candidates nominated by the World Health Organization, and five members were to be elected from among candidates nominated by the Members of the United Nations and parties to the Single Convention which were not Members of the United Nations.

48. In addition, the Council was to elect one member from among the candidates nominated by the World Health Organization to fill the vacancy arising as a result of the death of Mr. John Ebie (Nigeria) for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 1 March 1990.

49. The election would take place in three parts: a separate ballot for the election of one member from among the candidates nominated by WHO to fill the unexpired term of Mr. John Ebie; a separate ballot for the election of one member from among the candidates nominated by WHO

*See decision 1989/160.

for a five-year term beginning on 2 March 1990; and a separate ballot for the election of five members from among the candidates nominated by Governments for a five-year term beginning on 2 March 1990.

50. The PRESIDENT, replying to a point raised by the observer for Egypt, said that in cases where the same candidate was put forward by WHO and by a Government, that candidate's name would be deleted from the list of Government nominees.

51. Mr. NOWORYTA (Poland) said that his delegation would ask WHO to withdraw Mr. Wieniawski's name from the first vote, but hoped Council members would support him in the third vote for a five-year term.

52. Mr. MONTAÑO (Observer for Mexico) said that he wished to remind the Council that Mr. Quijano Narezo was a candidate for the remainder of Mr. Ebie's term, but also for a five-year term.

53. Mrs. GARUBA (Observer for Nigeria) said that the Polish representative's statement seemed to indicate that their candidate preferred to seek election to a five-year term rather than the unexpired term of Mr. Ebie. Nigeria also had a very well-qualified individual in mind, whom it might wish to nominate under other circumstances.

54. The PRESIDENT said that the candidate elected to replace Mr. Ebie could also seek election for a five-year term beginning on 2 March 1990. No changes could be made to the list of candidates appointed by WHO.

55. He invited the Council to elect one member of the International Narcotics Control Board from among candidates nominated by the World Health Organization for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 1 March 1990.

*At the invitation of the President, Mr. Grolig (Federal Republic of Germany) and Mr. Alhassane (Niger) acted as tellers.*

*A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

| | |
|---|---|
| *Number of ballot papers*: | 54 |
| *Invalid ballots*: | 0 |
| *Number of valid ballots*: | 54 |
| *Abstentions*: | 0 |
| *Number of members voting*: | 54 |
| *Required majority*: | 28 |
| *Number of votes obtained*: | |
| M. Quijano Narezo | 27 |
| W. Wieniawski | 20 |
| A. H. Ghodze | 7 |

56. The PRESIDENT said that as no candidate had obtained the required majority of 28 votes, a second ballot would be conducted between Mr. Quijano Narezo (Mexico) and Mr. Wieniawski (Poland) in accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the Council.

*A second vote was taken by secret ballot.*

| | |
|---|---|
| *Number of ballot papers*: | 54 |
| *Invalid ballots*: | 0 |
| *Number of valid ballots*: | 54 |
| *Abstentions*: | 0 |
| *Number of members voting*: | 54 |
| *Required majority*: | 28 |
| *Number of votes obtained*: | |
| M. Quijano Narezo | 32 |
| W. Wieniawski | 22 |

*Having obtained the required majority, Manuel Quijano Narezo (Mexico) was elected as a member of the International Narcotics Control Board for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 1 March 1990.**

57. The PRESIDENT said that elections for the International Narcotics Control Board would continue at the next meeting.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING INSTITUTE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN (E/1989/52 and Add.1)

58. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to appoint the three members of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women to fill the vacancies that would arise on 30 June 1989. Information concerning the membership of the Board of Trustees and the names of candidates and curricula vitae of the persons nominated by States were contained in document E/1989/52 and Add.1.

59. Since the Latin American and Caribbean States and the Western European and other States had nominated and endorsed one person each to fill the seat being vacated by a member of their respective groups, he took it that the Council agreed to appoint Ms. Virginia Oliva de Celli (Venezuela) and Ms. Penelope Ruth Fenwick (New Zealand) by acclamation.

*It was so decided.**

60. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect by secret ballot one member from the Group of African States.

*At the invitation of the President, Ms. Vassiliou-Zacharopoulos (Greece) and Mr. Minagawa (Japan) acted as tellers.*

*A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

| | |
|---|---|
| *Number of ballot papers*: | 54 |
| *Invalid ballots*: | 0 |
| *Number of valid ballots*: | 54 |
| *Abstentions*: | 0 |
| *Number of members voting*: | 54 |
| *Required majority*: | 28 |
| *Number of votes obtained*: | |
| Victoria N. Okobi (Nigeria) | 23 |
| Maïmouna Ndiaye Diop (Senegal) | 20 |
| Assumani Ussu Bagbeni (Zaire) | 11 |

61. The PRESIDENT said that as no candidate had obtained the required majority of 28, at the next meeting a second ballot would be conducted restricted to the two candidates having received the largest number of votes in accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the Council.

*The meeting rose at 1.25 p.m.*

*See decision 1989/160.

# 14th meeting

**Tuesday, 23 May 1989, at 3.20 p.m.**

*President*: Mr. Kjeld Vilhelm MORTENSEN (Denmark)

E/1989/SR.14

## AGENDA ITEM 13

### Elections and nominations (*concluded*)

INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD (*concluded*) (E/1989/4, E/1989/50/Rev.1, E/1989/51 and Add.1-4)

1. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect six members of the International Narcotics Control Board for a five-year term beginning on 2 March 1990. One member was to be elected from a list of candidates nominated by the World Health Organization, and the remaining five were to be elected from a list of candidates nominated by States Members of the United Nations and by parties to the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 that were not members of the United Nations.

2. He invited the Council to elect one member of the International Narcotics Control Board from the list of candidates nominated by the World Health Organization, for a five-year term beginning on 2 March 1990. The names of the candidates were listed in paragraph 12 of document E/1989/50/Rev.1.

*At the invitation of the President, Mr. Friedrich (Federal Republic of Germany) and Mr. Alhassane (Niger) acted as tellers.*

*A vote was taken by secret ballot to elect one member of the International Narcotics Control Board.*

| | |
|---|---|
| *Number of ballot papers*: | 51 |
| *Invalid ballots*: | 1 |
| *Number of valid ballots*: | 50 |
| *Abstentions*: | 0 |
| *Number of members voting*: | 50 |
| *Required majority*: | 26 |
| *Number of votes obtained*: | |
| Cai Zhi-Ji (China) | 38 |
| M. Quijano Narezo (Mexico) | 9 |
| A. H. Ghodze (Islamic Republic of Iran) | 3 |

*Having obtained the required majority, Mr. Cai Zhi-Ji (China) was elected a member of the International Narcotics Control Board for a five-year term beginning on 2 March 1990.**

3. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect five members of the International Narcotics Control Board from the list of candidates nominated by Governments of States Members, for a five-year term beginning on 2 March 1990. The names of the candidates were listed in paragraph 2 of document E/1989/51/Add.3. The Governments of Argentina and Bangladesh had withdrawn the candidatures of Mr. H. R. Cattani and Mr. M. A. Huq, respectively. Moreover, as a result of the preceding election the name of Mr. Cai Zhi-Ji should be removed from the list.

*At the invitation of the President, Mr. Cottafavi (Italy) and Mrs. King-Rousseau (Trinidad and Tobago) acted as tellers.*

*A vote was taken by secret ballot to elect five members of the International Narcotics Control Board.*

| | |
|---|---|
| *Number of ballot papers*: | 54 |
| *Invalid ballots*: | 0 |
| *Number of valid ballots*: | 54 |
| *Abstentions*: | 0 |
| *Number of members voting*: | 54 |
| *Required majority*: | 28 |
| *Number of votes obtained*: | |
| H. Cajías Kauffmann (Bolivia) | 34 |
| O. Schröder (Federal Republic of Germany) | 27 |
| M. A. Mansour (Egypt) | 26 |
| M. V. N. Rao (India) | 24 |
| M. Kchouk (Tunisia) | 22 |
| P. Beedle (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) | 20 |
| S. Raoof Ali Khan (Pakistan) | 17 |
| W. Wieniawski (Poland) | 15 |
| B. Huyghe-Braeckmans (Belgium) | 12 |
| Hope Orakwe Obianwu (Nigeria) | 9 |
| V. Popadić (Yugoslavia) | 9 |
| M. Quijano Narezo (Mexico) | 9 |
| A. H. Al-Awadhi (Kuwait) | 7 |
| H. M. Al-Obeidali (Qatar) | 7 |
| H. Karugaba (Uganda) | 6 |
| D. B. Rainford (Jamaica) | 6 |
| M. N. Supnet (Philippines) | 5 |
| R. Forture (Dominica) | 0 |
| E. I. Watty (Dominica) | 0 |

*Having obtained the required majority, Huáscar Cajías Kauffmann (Bolivia) was elected a member of the International Narcotics Control Board for a five-year term beginning on 2 March 1990.**

*Since no other candidate had obtained the required majority and since four vacancies remained to be filled, a second vote was taken by secret ballot, which, in accordance with rule 70, paragraph 2, of the rules of procedure of the Council, was restricted to the eight unsuccessful candidates who had obtained the largest number of votes in the previous ballot.*

| | |
|---|---|
| *Number of ballot papers*: | 54 |
| *Invalid ballots*: | 2 |
| *Number of valid ballots*: | 52 |
| *Abstentions*: | 0 |
| *Number of members voting*: | 52 |
| *Required majority*: | 27 |
| *Number of votes obtained*: | |
| M. A. Mansour (Egypt) | 34 |
| O. Schröder (Federal Republic of Germany) | 34 |
| M. V. N. Rao (India) | 32 |
| M. Kchouk (Tunisia) | 26 |

*See decision 1989/160.

| | |
|---|---|
| S. Raoof Ali Khan (Pakistan) | 23 |
| P. Beedle (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) | 21 |
| W. Wieniawski (Poland) | 14 |
| B. Huyghe-Braeckmans (Belgium) | 13 |

*Having obtained the required majority, Mohammed Abbas Mansour (Egypt), Oskar Schröder (Federal Republic of Germany) and Maruthi Vasudev Narayan Rao (India) were elected members of the International Narcotics Control Board for a five-year term beginning on 2 March 1990.**

*Since no other candidate had obtained the required majority and since one vacancy remained to be filled, a third vote was taken by secret ballot, which, in accordance with rule 69 of the Council's rules of procedure, was confined to the two candidates who, although not elected, had obtained the largest number of votes.*

| | |
|---|---|
| *Number of ballot papers*: | 54 |
| *Invalid ballots*: | 0 |
| *Number of valid ballots*: | 54 |
| *Abstentions*: | 0 |
| *Number of members voting*: | 54 |
| *Required majority*: | 28 |
| *Number of votes obtained*: | |
| M. Kchouk (Tunisia) | 36 |
| S. Raoof Ali Khan (Pakistan) | 18 |

*Having obtained the required majority, Mohsen Kchouk (Tunisia) was elected a member of the International Narcotics Control Board for a five-year term beginning on 2 March 1990.**

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING INSTITUTE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN (*concluded*) (E/1989/52 and Add.1)

4. The PRESIDENT said that, in connection with the appointment of one member from the list of candidates nominated for the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women by African States, the Council had taken a first ballot at the previous meeting. However, since none of the candidates had obtained the required majority, a second ballot would have to be taken, which, in accordance with the provisions of rule 69, paragraph 1, of the Council's rules of procedure, would be confined to the two candidates who had obtained the largest number of votes, in other words, Victoria N. Okobi (Nigeria) and Maïmouna Ndiaye Diop (Senegal).

*At the invitation of the President, Ms. Vassiliou-Zacharopoulos (Greece) and Mr. Minagawa (Japan) acted as tellers.*

*A second vote was taken by secret ballot to elect one member of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women.*

| | |
|---|---|
| *Number of ballot papers*: | 54 |
| *Invalid ballots*: | 0 |
| *Number of valid ballots*: | 54 |
| *Abstentions*: | 0 |
| *Number of members voting*: | 54 |
| *Required majority*: | 28 |
| *Number of votes obtained*: | |
| Victoria N. Okobi (Nigeria) | 29 |
| Maïmouna Ndiaye Diop (Senegal) | 25 |

*Having obtained the required majority, Victoria N. Okobi (Nigeria) was elected a member of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, for a three-year term beginning on 1 July 1989.**

ELECTIONS POSTPONED FROM PREVIOUS SESSIONS (*concluded*) (E/1989/30, para. 59)

INTERGOVERNMENTAL WORKING GROUP OF EXPERTS ON INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS OF ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING (*concluded*)

5. The PRESIDENT, referring to elections that had been postponed to later sessions, said that the Secretariat had been informed that Jordan had submitted its candidature to fill the vacancy for the Group of Asian States in the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting, for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1991.

6. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to elect Jordan by acclamation, for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1991.

*It was so decided.**

*The meeting rose at 5.40 p.m.*

*See decision 1989/160.

# 15th meeting

**Wednesday, 24 May 1989, at 10.35 a.m.**

*President*: Mr. Kjeld Vilhelm MORTENSEN (Denmark)

E/1989/SR.15

## AGENDA ITEM 8

### Transnational corporations (E/1989/28 and Add.1, E/1989/87)

REPORT OF THE FIRST (ECONOMIC) COMMITTEE (E/1989/87)

1. The PRESIDENT said that the Council had before it the report of its First (Economic) Committee (E/1989/87) on agenda item 8, which had been allocated to the Committee for its consideration. In paragraph 19 of the report, the Committee recommended to the Council the adoption of eight draft resolutions proposed by the Commission on Transnational Corporations in the report on its fifteenth session (E/1989/28, chap. I, sect. A), namely: I, "Activities of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations related to economic cooperation among developing countries"; II, "Recent trends concerning transnational corporations and international economic relations"; III, "Role of transnational corporations in the least developed countries"; IV, "Code of conduct on transnational corporations"; V, "Transnational corporations and environmental protection in developing countries"; VI, "Contribution of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations to the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990"; VII, "Activities of transnational corporations in South Africa and Namibia"; VIII, "Role of transnational banks in developing countries".

2. He invited the Council to take action on draft resolutions I to VIII.

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

3. Mr. BELHAJ (Tunisia) said that his delegation favoured the adoption by consensus of draft resolution I and remained convinced of the need for technical co-operation between the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations and developing States. Several co-operation projects undertaken by his Government were facing financial obstacles, and he felt certain that the Centre would continue to provide assistance in the search for solutions.

*Draft resolution I was adopted* (resolution 1989/21).

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

4. Mr. BELHAJ (Tunisia) said that he hoped draft resolution II would be adopted by consensus. The recent process of regional economic integration among the developed countries called for new thinking about the potential impact of such integration on the future operations of transnational corporations in developing countries.

*Draft resolution II was adopted* (resolution 1989/22).

DRAFT RESOLUTION III

5. Mr. BELHAJ (Tunisia) said that his delegation favoured the adoption by consensus of draft resolution III. The role of transnational corporations in development was now recognized, and their responsibility with regard to investments in the least developed countries should be stressed.

*Draft resolution III was adopted* (resolution 1989/23).

6. Mrs. SYAHRUDDIN (Indonesia) said that she wished to place on record her delegation's support for the three draft resolutions just adopted.

DRAFT RESOLUTION IV

7. Mr. BELHAJ (Tunisia) said that he hoped draft resolution IV would be adopted by consensus. His delegation was pleased that the members of the Council had repeatedly affirmed their willingness to pursue informal consultations in order to reach a compromise on the issue. Although some questions were still outstanding, such as the applicable law in cases of disputes between transnational corporations and the host State, the general atmosphere was now conducive to finalizing the draft.

*Draft resolution IV was adopted* (resolution 1989/24).

DRAFT RESOLUTION V

8. The PRESIDENT recalled that draft resolution V had been adopted by the First (Economic) Committee, in a roll-call vote, by 34 votes to 1, and drew attention to the statement on programme budget implications contained in document E/1989/28/Add.1.

9. Mr. BELHAJ (Tunisia) said that his delegation intended to vote for the draft resolution, and reiterated its position on the need for large-scale international co-operation on the issue. While transnational corporations bore a major responsibility for the protection of the environment, that role was also shared by the developing countries, which could benefit from the experience of developed nations. The information to be submitted to the Secretary-General by the Council would be useful in connection with the possible holding of a conference on environment and development in 1992.

*A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution V.*

*In favour*: Bahamas, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, China, Colombia, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Oman, Poland, Portugal, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

*Against*: United States of America.

*Abstaining*: None.

*Draft resolution V was adopted by 53 votes to 1* (resolution 1989/25).

10. Mr. SHAPOVALOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), speaking in explanation of vote, said that it was his understanding that the Secretary-General would

take all necessary steps to cover any expenses connected with the studies provided for in the draft resolution just adopted from the existing budget appropriations. The quest for such resources should not be an obstacle to the implementation of the draft resolution as a whole.

11. Mr. TYSON (United States of America), speaking in explanation of vote, said that his delegation had joined the consensus on draft resolution V before the statement of programme budget implications had been made available. He believed strongly in budgetary discipline and hoped that the work outlined in the draft resolution could be carried out within the current resource levels.

DRAFT RESOLUTION VI

12. Mr. BELHAJ (Tunisia) said that he supported the adoption by consensus of draft resolution VI. It was obvious that a new responsibility was incumbent upon investors to promote economic development in the poorest African countries; to do so was, of course, in the interest of all concerned.

*Draft resolution VI was adopted* (resolution 1989/26).

DRAFT RESOLUTION VII

13. The PRESIDENT noted that the First (Economic) Committee had adopted draft resolution VII, in a roll-call vote, by 43 votes to 1, with 1 abstention.

14. Mr. BELHAJ (Tunisia) said that his delegation would vote in favour of the draft resolution. The harm caused by the abhorrent policy of *apartheid* could not be ignored, and it was necessary to condemn those transnational corporations which continued to co-operate with the Pretoria régime. His country looked forward to Namibia's entry into the community of independent nations.

*A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution VII.*

*In favour*: Bahamas, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, China, Colombia, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Italy, Jordan, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Oman, Poland, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

*Against*: United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

*Abstaining*: Canada, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ireland, Japan, Netherlands, Portugal.

*Draft resolution VII was adopted by 45 votes to 2, with 7 abstentions* (resolution 1989/27).

15. Mr. HARRISON (United Kingdom), speaking in explanation of vote, said he regretted that it had not been possible for a consensus resolution on the issue to be adopted at the current session. He hoped that such a consensus would be reached in 1990 in the Commission on Transnational Corporations and the Council, particularly with regard to the activities of transnational corporations in Namibia, where the Council should take account of recent developments.

16. Mr. TYSON (United States of America), speaking in explanation of vote, said that the people and Government of his country strongly rejected racism and *apartheid*. It was his Government's policy to promote a peaceful transition to non-racial democracy in South Africa through carefully targeted political, diplomatic and economic pressure. However, comprehensive and punitive sanctions as called for in the draft resolution would not work, and the extreme language of some of the operative paragraphs, about which other delegations had expressed reservations, detracted from the serious efforts undertaken to end *apartheid*. As to Namibia, the draft resolution did not take account of changed circumstances there.

DRAFT RESOLUTION VIII

17. The PRESIDENT recalled that draft resolution VIII had been adopted by the First (Economic) Committee, in a roll-call vote, by 43 votes to 1, with one abstention.

18. Mr. BELHAJ (Tunisia) said he hoped that the report by the Secretary-General at the next session of the Commission on Transnational Corporations would focus on the issue of external debt, in view of the close relationship between the international debt crisis and transnational banks as important sources of capital. His delegation would vote in favour of draft resolution VIII.

*A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution VIII.*

*In favour*: Bahamas, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, China, Colombia, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Oman, Poland, Portugal, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

*Against*: United States of America.

*Abstaining*: Canada.

*Draft resolution VIII was adopted by 52 votes to 1, with 1 abstention* (resolution 1989/28).

19. Mr. TYSON (United States of America), speaking in explanation of vote, said that draft resolution VIII was unbalanced and did not sufficiently take account of deliberations in other institutions. It was important to avoid duplication in the formulation of debt-reduction strategies and to allow the Bretton Woods institutions to get on with their work.

20. The PRESIDENT said that the First (Economic) Committee, in paragraph 20 of its report (E/1989/87), recommended a draft decision entitled "Provisional agenda and documentation for the sixteenth session of the Commission on Transnational Corporations" for adoption by the Council.

21. If he heard no objections, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft decision.

*The draft decision was adopted* (decision 1989/124).

22. The PRESIDENT suggested, if there were no objections, that the Council should take note of the report of the Commission on Transnational Corporations on its fifteenth session (E/1989/28 and Add.1).

*It was so decided* (decision 1989/125).

23. The PRESIDENT said that the Council had concluded its consideration of agenda item 8.

## AGENDA ITEM 10

**Women (E/1989/27, E/1989/70, E/1989/90 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1):**

**(*a*) Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women**

**(*b*) Advancement of women**

REPORT OF THE SECOND (SOCIAL) COMMITTEE (E/1989/90 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1)

24. The PRESIDENT said that the Council had before it the report of its Second (Social) Committee (E/1989/90 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1) on agenda item 10, which had been allocated to the Committee for its consideration. In paragraph 32 of part I (E/1989/90) of the report, the Committee recommended 16 draft resolutions for adoption by the Council. Draft resolutions I to XIV had been recommended initially by the Commission on the Status of Women in the report on its thirty-third session (E/1989/27, chap. I, sect. A) as draft resolutions I, II and IV to XV.

25. The 16 draft resolutions were entitled: I, "Improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat"; II, "Programme planning and activities to advance the status of women"; III, "Women and children in Namibia"; IV, "Preparations for the session of the Commission on the Status of Women in 1990 to review and appraise progress in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women"; V, "Women and children under *apartheid*"; VI, "Situation of Palestinian women"; VII, "Women and peace in Central America"; VIII, "Equality in economic and social participation"; IX, "Measures to facilitate the participation of women in development"; X, "Elderly women"; XI, "Women, human rights and development in Central America"; XII, "Women living in absolute poverty"; XIII, "Women and development"; XIV, "Economic situation of women in Latin America and the Caribbean"; XV, "International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women"; XVI, "Elimination of discrimination against women in accordance with the aims of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women".

26. He invited the Council to take action on draft resolutions I to XVI.

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

*Draft resolution I was adopted* (resolution 1989/29).

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

*Draft resolution II was adopted* (resolution 1989/30).

27. Mrs. HELKE (United Kingdom) said that although her delegation had joined the consensus on draft resolution II, the references to the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 would have to be seen in the context of the relevant regulations and rules adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 37/234, particularly those concerning the identification of priorities and the allocation of resources. Her delegation attached importance to respect for that procedure.

DRAFT RESOLUTIONS III AND IV

*Draft resolutions III and IV were adopted* (resolutions 1989/31 and 1989/32).

DRAFT RESOLUTION V

28. The PRESIDENT recalled that draft resolution V had been adopted by the Second (Social) Committee, in a recorded vote, by 37 votes to 2, with 9 abstentions.

*A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution V.*

*In favour*: Bahamas, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, China, Colombia, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Oman, Poland, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

*Against*: United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

*Abstaining*: Canada, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Portugal.

*Draft resolution V was adopted by 44 votes to 2, with 8 abstentions* (resolution 1989/33).

DRAFT RESOLUTION VI

29. The PRESIDENT recalled that the Second (Social) Committee had adopted draft resolution VI, in a recorded vote, by 32 votes to 1, with 14 abstentions.

*A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution VI.*

*In favour*: Bahamas, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, China, Colombia, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Nicaragua, Niger, Oman, Poland, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

*Against*: United States of America.

*Abstaining*: Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Lesotho, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Zaire.

*Draft resolution VI was adopted by 38 votes to 1, with 15 abstentions* (resolution 1989/34).

DRAFT RESOLUTIONS VII TO XII

*Draft resolutions VII, VIII, IX, X, XI, and XII were adopted* (resolutions 1989/35, 1989/36, 1989/37, 1989/38, 1989/39 and 1989/40).

DRAFT RESOLUTION XIII

30. The PRESIDENT recalled that draft resolution XIII had been adopted by the Second (Social) Committee, in a recorded vote, by 32 votes to 1, with 14 abstentions.

*A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution XIII.*

*In favour*: Bahamas, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, China, Colombia, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Ghana, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Nicaragua, Niger, Oman, Poland, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

*Against*: United States of America.

*Abstaining*: Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

*Draft resolution XIII was adopted by 40 votes to 1, with 13 abstentions* (resolution 1989/41).

DRAFT RESOLUTION XIV

*Draft resolution XVI was adopted* (resolution 1989/42).

DRAFT RESOLUTION XV

*Draft resolution XV was adopted* (resolution 1989/43).

DRAFT RESOLUTION XVI

*Draft resolution XVI was adopted* (resolution 1989/44).

31. The PRESIDENT said that in paragraph 33 of part I (E/1989/90) of the report of the Second (Social) Committee, the Committee recommended to the Council the adoption of four draft decisions, namely: I, "System-wide coordination of activities to advance the status of women and to integrate women into development"; II, "Activities to assist women in the fight against the acquired immunodeficiency syndrome pandemic"; III, "Report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its thirty-third session and provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-fourth session of the Commission"; IV, "Interregional consultation on women in public life". Under draft decision I, the Council would decide to defer action on the draft resolution of the same title recommended by the Commission on the Status of Women in its report (E/1989/27, chap. I, sect. A), as draft decision III. Draft decisions II and III were originally recommended by the Commission in its report (*ibid.*, chap. I, sect. B), as draft decisions I and II.

32. He invited the Council to take action on draft decisions I to IV.

*Draft decisions I, II, III and IV were adopted* (decisions 1989/126, 1989/127, 1989/128 and 1989/129).

33. The PRESIDENT suggested, if there were no objections, that the Council should take note of the note by the Secretary-General entitled "National experience relating to the situation of women in rural areas".

*It was so decided* (decision 1989/130).

34. The PRESIDENT said that the Second (Social) Committee, in paragraph 27 of part II (E/1989/90/Add.1 and Corr.1) of its report on agenda item 10, also recommended a draft resolution entitled "Enlargement of the Commission on the Status of Women" for adoption by the Council.

35. He invited the Council to take action on the draft resolution.

36. Mr. VILLAR (Observer for Spain), speaking on behalf of the 12 States members of the European Community, said that the Twelve were fully committed to United Nations efforts to promote the advancement of women in all societies. They attached great importance to the role of the Commission on the Status of Women and agreed to its enlargement. The could not, however, support the draft resolution recommended by the Second (Social) Committee, and those which were members of the Economic and Social Council would vote against it.

37. As a matter of principle, certain decisions affecting the fabric of the United Nations should be adopted only by consensus. Unless all Member States agreed on the basic principles governing their work, they would never achieve the objectives established in the Charter of the United Nations. The lack of agreement on its composition would seriously damage the work of the Commission on the Status of Women in the future.

38. Since the beginning of the session, the Twelve had expressed their willingness to negotiate in good faith. They had made several proposals proving their willingness to increase the number of seats on the Commission, and had been ready to accept a significant increase. Their good faith had been met by a lack of willingness on the part of the Group of 77 to reach a compromise. The Twelve regretted that the negotiations had been called to an end by the Group of 77 when there was still time to reach a compromise and that the last proposal by the Twelve had never been adequately considered.

39. The draft before the Council reflected inflexibility and a lack of political will on the part of the Group of 77. Three regional groups were seeking to impose their views about an issue which ought to enjoy universal support. The Twelve did not regard the decision as a precedent. They were concerned that the confrontational atmosphere generated could have long-term repercussions and might damage the spirit which ought to prevail during current efforts to make the social sector of the United Nations more efficient.

40. Mr. FORTIER (Canada) said that his delegation and those of Australia and New Zealand, for whom he was also speaking, would vote against the draft resolution. They regretted most deeply the decision to enlarge the Commission on the Status of Women without reaching consensus on the subject. They were disappointed and dismayed that such an important matter should have to be decided by a vote. The position reflected in the text now before the Council was essentially unchanged from the opening position of one of the groups in the negotiations: a clear sign that no compromises had been made.

41. Australia, New Zealand and Canada accepted, in principle, the need to enlarge the Commission and had worked hard to reach consensus on the matter. The objectives of the Commission would have gained from an appropriate enlargement of the membership. As it was, the three countries could only regret both the decision taken in the Second (Social) Committee and the manner in which it had been reached. They hoped such an incident would never occur again. The spirit of a truly united United Nations must be sought in accommodation and compromise, co-operation and consensus. It was in the best interest of both the advancement of women and the Organization itself that the spirit of consensus which had prevailed at the Nairobi Conference should be restored.

42. Mr. VRAALSEN (Norway), speaking on behalf of the five Nordic countries—Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Sweden and Norway—said that the two Nordic countries which were members of the Council would vote against the draft resolution. From the outset they had accepted the need to enlarge the Commission, to reflect the fact that the desire for an improvement in the status of women was shared by all. To be fully representative, the Commission needed to be strengthened. But the Nordic countries had always held that any enlargement of the Commission and subsequent change in its composition should be based on consensus. They had worked long and hard to achieve such a consensus and felt deep regret and disappointment

that none had been found. They also regretted the course which the negotiations had taken and the manner in which action had been taken in the Second (Social) Committee. They hoped the Council would never again work in such an unfortunate and divisive manner. The United Nations drew its strength from co-operation and agreement; confrontation and disagreement would only weaken its role.

43. A year hence, the Commission on the Status of Women was due to meet in extended session to review the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women.[2] It was essential that the spirit of consensus should be restored through a display of mutual respect, understanding and accommodation. He hoped that the delegations which had forced the question to a vote would bear that in mind.

44. Mr. RASTAM (Observer for Malaysia), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77, said it had been most unfortunate, but also inevitable, that the Second (Social) Committee should have had to take action on the draft resolution by a vote. Over the preceding two weeks, negotiations had gone on in earnest, in a spirit of understanding, friendship and co-operation, and all sides had worked extremely hard to achieve a solution by consensus.

45. The Group of 77 had always been flexible and willing to look at serious proposals which, in its view, could provide the basis for consensus. Attempts to portray one group as unreasonable or uncompromising by comparison with others were, in its view, very unfair. There had been calls for more time to negotiate, but the question of expanding the Commission had been in the air since the 1985 Nairobi Conference. The intervening years could have been used for serious deliberations on the matter. The Group of 77 had always been ready to discuss the question constructively and work towards an understanding that the Commission needed to be enlarged on the basis of certain fundamental principles. For the past 23 years, the membership of the Commission had stood at 32. The increase in the total membership of the United Nations over that period clearly warranted a proportionate enlargement of the Commission. The Commission itself had discussed its enlargement at its thirty-third session, but had made no recommendation. In anticipation of the extended session of the Commission due to take place in 1990, the Group of 77 believed the time had come for definitive action and to that end had initiated the draft resolution now before the Council.

46. Member States of the United Nations, both developed and developing countries, attached high priority to activities advancing the cause and status of women. The Commission on the Status of Women played a crucial role in meeting that objective and was central in promoting international co-operation to integrate women into economic development programmes and activities. Those and other factors had made it necessary to enhance the work of the Commission and allow more developing countries to take part. But, in enlarging the Commission, the problem of overrepresentation of certain regions and underrepresentation of others needed to be addressed; the Group of 77 had always maintained that the allocation of seats should be guided by the principle of equitable geographical distribution. Thus, the Group had proposed no increase in the number of seats allocated to regions already adequately represented; instead, the extra seats should be given to regions which had been underrepresented in the past. The Group had not advocated depriving any region of seats which it already held.

47. For the past four years, the Group of 77 had been looking forward to the enlargement of the Commission, in the conviction that it would further enhance the Commission's effectiveness—an important consideration in the context of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women.[2] The Commission ought to be able to produce concrete recommendations during its extended session in 1990, but it would need the full support of all Member States. The Group of 77 sincerely hoped that no one would contemplate or take any action to hinder the work of the Commission after its enlargement. It sought a continuation of the climate of international co-operation which had prevailed in the past, because the Commission could do much to benefit all women, in both developed and developing countries.

48. Mrs. PELLICER (Observer for Mexico) said that her delegation welcomed the enlargement of the Commission on the basis of equitable geographical distribution. The draft resolution recommended by the Second (Social) Committee was in keeping with the mandates given to the Economic and Social Council. It would open the door to more co-operation in improving the status of women. The Commission on the Status of Women was one of the most outstanding United Nations organs and had set an example of efficiency and order in the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations. In developing countries, however, the status of women had been stagnating or declining in recent years. Thus, it was necessary to allow more developing countries to become members of the Commission. Constructive dialogue within the Commission would allow delegations to reach conclusions on the major obstacles to the advancement of women. Her delegation looked forward to taking part in the open-ended working group due to be convened at the extended session in 1990 and to finding there the spirit of professionalism and co-operation which the subject demanded.

49. Mr. ZAWACKI (Poland) said that the delegations of Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and his own country would vote against the draft resolution because it disregarded a number of principles to which they attached importance. The decision to enlarge the Commission should have been taken by consensus. While allocating more seats to the developing countries, it ought to have taken account of the interests of all regional groups. The delegations for which he spoke had attended the negotiations in that hope. They did not believe that all possibilities for consensus had been fully explored. It was regrettable that such an important decision was to be taken by vote. The move might adversely affect the good spirit characteristic of current efforts to improve the lot of women. The decision must not constitute a precedent for other United Nations bodies.

50. Mrs. MUKHERJEE (India) warmly supported the position taken by the Group of 77, which had done a great deal to accommodate the interests of all groups and had not sought confrontation. As a matter of principle, all States should be able to participate in United Nations bodies on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, as laid down in the Charter. The Group of 77 would have been willing to negotiate on any proposal that acknowledged

the point; but none had been forthcoming—and it was not that Group which had called for a vote on the draft resolution, but a member of another regional group. The Group of 77 had not sought to take seats on the Commission away from anyone else; it merely sought justice for itself. The additional members would make the Commission a more effective body.

51. Mrs. SYAHRUDDIN (Indonesia) endorsed the position taken by the Group of 77, adding that her delegation would have been happier if the draft resolution had been supported by all delegations. She hoped that the additional members on the Commission would make for more balanced representation of all Member States. The decision to enlarge the membership would facilitate the Commission's task in coping with an ever-increasing range of responsibilities. In the end, she was confident, the decision would prove to have been a wise one.

52. Mrs. M'ELLA NGOMBA (Cameroon) said that the groundwork for the decision had been laid at the 1985 Nairobi Conference. The importance of the Commission's task had been acknowledged in the decision that it should meet every year until the year 2000, despite the financial crisis in the United Nations. She greatly regretted attempts by some delegations to undermine the principles of equality and equitable geographical distribution governing representation on United Nations bodies. When emotions died down, it would be apparent that the enlarged membership afforded women all round the world an opportunity to contribute to the Commission's work. However the decision had been reached, everyone was working towards a common objective.

53. Mr. GRILLO (Colombia) said that his delegation supported the statement made by the Chairman of the Group of 77 and stressed the need to uphold the principle of the sovereign equality of Member States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations. The principle of equitable geographical distribution of the various regional groups was not taken into account in the Commission on the Status of Women. In that connection, he stressed the need to promote better understanding through increased international co-operation based on mutual trust among regions, shared responsibilities and the discarding of outdated notions. The membership of United Nations bodies should reflect the overall number and geographical diversity of the Member States. Observance of the principle of equitable geographical distribution in United Nations bodies would make the Organization truly universal and enhance the effectiveness of its work. Colombia, which believed that it was necessary to conduct a general review of the membership of the various United Nations bodies in order to ensure equitable regional representation, would vote in favour of the draft resolution under consideration.

54. Mr. MORA GODOY (Cuba) said that he fully supported the statement made by the Chairman of the Group of 77 and underscored the importance of ensuring the observance of the principles of equitable geographical distribution and the sovereign equality of Member States. The Group of 77 had shown its readiness to co-operate in order to solve the problem of the underrepresentation of developing countries in United Nations bodies. Cuba would vote in favour of the draft resolution because its adoption would give further impetus to the work of the Commission and the efforts of all States to improve the status of women.

55. Mr. GALAL (Observer for Egypt) stressed the need to ensure observance of the principle of equitable geographical distribution in the membership of United Nations bodies and to increase the representation of the States which had recently joined the Organization. The Group of 77 had worked continuously to reach a consensus and had not requested a vote on the draft resolution under consideration. He hoped that the draft resolution could still be adopted by consensus and appealed to all delegations to act in a spirit of co-operation.

56. Mr. TANIGUCHI (Japan) said that his delegation supported efforts to improve the status of women. In the past, however, a number of United Nations bodies had been enlarged, and participation by delegations in their work had subsequently decreased. The mere enlargement of a body did not necessarily enhance its effectiveness. Accordingly, Japan would vote against the draft resolution.

57. Mrs. ARUNGU-OLENDE (Kenya) said that her delegation fully supported the statement made by the Chairman of the Group of 77. The enlargement of the Commission on the Status of Women would enable women from developing countries to speak more effectively for themselves. The Group of 77 had overcome its differences and had reached a consensus on the matter. Other groups had failed to do so. The issue, however, would not divide women, who would continue to fight for true equality.

58. Ms. ZINDOGA (Observer for Zimbabwe) said that her delegation supported the statements made by the Chairman of the Group of 77 and the representative of Kenya. The enlargement of the Commission would enrich its work. It was unfortunate that a consensus had not been achieved because a number of delegations had failed to act in a constructive manner.

59. Mr. TAHA (Sudan) said that he supported the statement made by the Chairman of the Group of 77. The enlargement of the Commission would give the millions of poverty-stricken women in developing countries a stronger voice. It was regrettable that a consensus had not been achieved and that a vote was inevitable. His delegation did not agree with the view that enlarging the membership of United Nations bodies led to decreased participation by delegations in the work of such bodies. The Sudan, therefore, would vote in favour of the draft resolution.

60. Mr. YOUSSIF (Iraq) said that his delegation supported the statement made by the Chairman of the Group of 77. Iraq could not accept the view that enlarging the membership of United Nations bodies brought about decreased participation by delegations. The United Nations must help all countries, regardless of their levels of economic and social development, to participate in the activities of the Organization. In that connection, he hoped that the current atmosphere of détente in international relations would promote efforts to ensure respect for United Nations principles, particularly that of the sovereign equality of all Member States and the principle of equitable geographical distribution in the membership of United Nations bodies.

*A recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution entitled "Enlargement of the Commission on the Status of Women".*

*In favour*: Bahamas, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, China, Colombia, Cuba, Ghana, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Nicaragua, Niger, Oman, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

*Against*: Bulgaria, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

*Abstaining*: None.

*The draft resolution entitled "Enlargement of the Commission on the Status of Women" was adopted by 35 votes to 19, with no abstentions* (resolution 1989/45).

61. Miss BYRNE (United States of America), speaking in explanation of vote, said that her country did not support the Council's decision to enlarge the Commission on the Status of Women. Such decisions must be initiated by the Commission itself. Then, and only then, should the Council endorse them. The question of enlarging the Commission had been extremely divisive. Her Government had negotiated in good faith in an attempt to achieve a consensus. A smaller Commission would be more effective and less bureaucratic. Unfortunately, enlargement would serve merely to politicize the only United Nations body responsible for the advancement of women.

62. There was little correlation between the current interest in enlarging the Commission and a sincere desire to improve the lives of women throughout the world. The lack of commitment to the Commission's work had been recently demonstrated at its last session at Vienna, when some elected members had failed to attend or had left before the completion of the session. If delegations were truly interested in improving the status of women in the world, they must attend the Commission's meetings, remain throughout its sessions and conduct a more candid appraisal of the situation of women in their own countries.

63. Since more Governments would be represented at future meetings of the Commission, delegations must work together to achieve real progress. They must tackle the problems that debased the lives of women, including child prostitution, female slavery, female circumcision, dowry deaths, self-sacrifice by widows and the offering of young girls as compensatory payment in inter-family disputes. Her Government did not view the adoption of the draft resolution as a precedent for other United Nations bodies, and intended to scrutinize the financial implications of the decision. At a time of budgetary restraint and organizational reform, it was necessary to avoid increased costs when restructuring United Nations bodies.

64. Ms. DU Yong (China) said that her delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution because it supported the enlargement of the Commission and observance of the principle of equitable geographical distribution in order to enable more developing countries to participate in its work. Her Government would have preferred adoption of the draft resolution by consensus. Nevertheless, the decision just taken would promote the Commission's work.

65. The PRESIDENT said that the Council had concluded its consideration of agenda item 10.

## AGENDA ITEM 11

**Social development (E/1988/20, E/1989/25, E/1989/91 and Add.1)**

**(*a*) World social situation**

**(*b*) Social policy and social development**

REPORT OF THE SECOND (SOCIAL) COMMITTEE

66. The PRESIDENT said that the Council had before it the report of the Second (Social) Committee (E/1989/91 and Add.1) on agenda item 11, which had been allocated to the Committee for consideration. In paragraph 58 of part one (E/1989/91) of the report, the Committee recommended 26 draft resolutions for adoption by the Council. Draft resolutions I to X were originally recommended by the Commission for Social Development in its report on its thirty-first session (E/1989/25, chap. I, sect. A). Paragraph 7 of draft resolution III was amended by the Committee. Draft resolutions XI to XXIV were originally recommended by the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control in its report on its tenth session (E/1988/20, chap. I, sect. A).

67. The 26 draft resolutions were as follows: I, "Critical social situation in Africa"; II, "Social welfare, development and science and technology"; III, "Twentieth anniversary of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development"; IV, "Follow-up to the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future"; V, "Second review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Plan of Action on Aging"; VI, "Youth in the contemporary world"; VII, "United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons"; VIII, "Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future and follow-up to the Interregional Consultation on Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes"; IX, "Need to enhance international co-operation in the field of protection and assistance to the family"; X, "The social dimension of the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade"; XI, "Statute of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute"; XII, "Implementation of the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power"; XIII, "United Nations network of government-appointed national correspondents in the field of crime prevention and control"; XIV, "African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders"; XV, "Procedures for the effective implementation of the Basic Principles on the Independence of the Judiciary"; XVI, "Guidelines for the effective implementation of the Basic Principles on the Independence of the Judiciary"; XVII, "Concerted international action against the forms of crime identified in the Milan Plan of Action"; XVIII, "Implementation of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice"; XIX, "Implementation of the safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty"; XX, "Effective prevention and investigation of extra-legal, arbitrary and summary executions"; XXI, "United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice"; XXII, "Domestic violence"; XXIII, "Review of the functioning and programme of work of the United Nations in crime prevention and criminal justice"; XXIV, "Continuation of preparations for the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and

the Treatment of Offenders"; XXV, "International co-operation in combating organized crime"; XXVI, "Achievement of social justice".

68. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft resolutions I to XXVI.

*Draft resolutions I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X and XI were adopted* (resolutions 1989/46, 1989/47, 1989/48, 1989/49, 1989/50, 1989/51, 1989/52, 1989/53, 1989/54, 1989/55 and 1989/56).

69. The PRESIDENT said that in paragraph 5 of draft resolution XII the words "and of redress" should be changed to read "and for providing redress".

*Draft resolution XII was adopted* (resolution 1989/57).

*Draft resolutions XIII, XIV, XV, XVI, XVII, XVIII, XIX, XX, XXI, XXII, XXIII, XXIV, XXV and XXVI were adopted* (resolutions 1989/58, 1989/59, 1989/60, 1989/61, 1989/62, 1989/63, 1989/64, 1989/65, 1989/66, 1989/67, 1989/68, 1989/69, 1989/70 and 1989/71).

70. The PRESIDENT drew attention to paragraph 59 of part one (E/1989/91) of the report of the Second (Social) Committee, in which the Committee recommended four draft decisions for adoption by the Council, namely: I, "Report of the Commission for Social Development on its thirty-first session and provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-second session of the Commission"; II, "Enlargement of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development"; III, "Report of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control on its tenth session and provisional agenda and documentation for the eleventh session of the Committee"; IV, "Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders". Draft decision I was originally recommended by the Commission for Social Development in its report (E/1989/25, chap. I, sect. B). Draft decision III was originally recommended by the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control in its report (E/1988/20, chap. I, sect. A).

71. He invited the Council to take action on draft decisions I to IV.

*Draft decision I was adopted* (decision 1989/131).

72. The PRESIDENT, referring to paragraph (*b*) of draft decision II, said that the Bureau recommended that the Council revert to the question of the nomination and confirmation of the three additional members at its second regular session of 1989. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the recommendation of the Bureau was accepted.

*It was so decided.*

*Draft decision II was adopted as amended* (decision 1989/132).

*Draft decision III was adopted* (decision 1989/133).

73. The PRESIDENT said that the Second (Social) Committee had adopted draft decision IV by a recorded vote of 43 to 2.

*A recorded vote was taken on draft decision IV.*

*In favour*: Bahamas, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, China, Colombia, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Oman, Poland, Portugal, Rwanda, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

*Against*: United States of America.

*Abstaining*: None.

*Draft decision IV was adopted by 51 votes to 1* (decision 1989/134).

74. Miss BYRNE (United States of America), speaking in explanation of vote, said that the decision to hold the Congress away from the United Nations Office at Vienna was regrettable. Her delegation was concerned that the resources available to the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs had decreased, even as its commitments had increased. Moreover, holding the Congress in Vienna would have made it possible for all Member States to attend.

75. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on the draft resolution entitled "World social situation", recommended for adoption by the Council in paragraph 10 of part II (E/1989/91/Add.1) of the report of the Second (Social) Committee on agenda item 11.

*A recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution.*

*In favour*: Bahamas, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, China, Colombia, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Ghana, Guinea, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Nicaragua, Niger, Oman, Poland, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

*Against*: United States of America.

*Abstaining*: Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

*The draft resolution was adopted by 39 votes to 1, with 13 abstentions* (resolution 1989/72).

76. The PRESIDENT said, if there were no objections, that the Council should take note of the reports considered in connection with the question of social development, namely: the report of the Secretary-General on national experience in promoting the co-operative movement (E/1989/8) and the report of the Secretary-General on national experience in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress (E/1989/14).

*It was so decided* (decision 1989/135).

77. The PRESIDENT said that the Council had thus concluded its consideration of agenda item 11.

*The meeting rose at 12.55 p.m.*

# 16th meeting

**Wednesday, 24 May 1989, at 3.30 p.m.**

*President*: Mr. Kjeld Vilhelm MORTENSEN (Denmark)

E/1989/SR.16

## AGENDA ITEM 9

**Human rights questions (E/1989/20, E/1989/88, E/1989/L.9)**

**(*a*) International Covenants on Human Rights**

**(*b*) Human rights**

REPORT OF THE SECOND (SOCIAL) COMMITTEE

1. The PRESIDENT said that the Council had before it the report of the Second (Social) Committee (E/1989/88) on agenda item 9, which had been allocated to the Committee for its consideration. In paragraph 59 of the report, the Committee recommended for adoption by the Council 10 draft resolutions, of which the first eight had been recommended originally by the Commission on Human Rights in its report on its forty-fifth session (E/1989/20, chap. I, sect. A). Draft resolutions II and IV were amended in the Second (Social) Committee. Draft resolutions IX and X originated in the Committee. In paragraph 60 of the report, the Committee also recommended for adoption by the Council 21 draft decisions, of which the first 20 had been recommended originally by the Commission in its report (E/1989/20, chap. I, sect. B). Draft decision III was amended in the Committee. Draft decision XXI originated in the Committee.

2. He invited the Council to take action on the recommendations of the Second (Social) Committee.

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

3. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft resolution I, entitled "Adverse consequences for the enjoyment of human rights of political, military, economic and other forms of assistance given to the racist and colonialist régime of South Africa", the text of which was contained in the report of the Commission on Human Rights (E/1989/20, chap. I, sect. A). Since the draft resolution had been adopted in the Second (Social) Committee by a recorded vote, the Council might wish to proceed in the same way.

4. Mr. AL-KAHTANY (Saudi Arabia) observed that the Arabic version of document E/1989/88 contained neither draft resolution X nor paragraph 60, with other draft resolutions that had been amended and adopted. He requested the Secretariat to distribute the Arabic version of those texts as amended and adopted by the Second (Social) Committee before the Council took any action on draft resolution I.

5. Mr. STOBY (Secretary of the Council) said that the delegation of Iraq had likewise drawn attention to that situation, and in order to solve the problem the text which the Second (Social) Committee had before it for adoption would be distributed.

*A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution I.*

*In favour*: Bahamas, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, China, Colombia, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Ghana, Guinea, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Nicaragua, Niger, Oman, Poland, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

*Against*: France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

*Abstaining*: Canada, Denmark, Greece, Ireland, Japan, Liberia, New Zealand, Norway.

*Draft resolution I was adopted by 38 votes to 7, with 8 abstentions* (resolution 1989/73).

6. Miss TELEWODA (Liberia) said that she had intended to vote in favour of draft resolution I.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

7. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft resolution II, entitled "Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities", the text of which was contained in paragraph 59 of document E/1989/88, and said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft resolution without a vote.

*Draft resolution II was adopted* (resolution 1989/74).

DRAFT RESOLUTION III

8. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft resolution III, entitled "Status of special rapporteurs", the text of which was contained in chapter I of document E/1989/20.

9. Mr. TANASIE (Observer for Romania) said his delegation had provided the necessary explanations in the appropriate forums and considered the efforts that had been made to transform a case of illness into a political and legal issue to be unacceptable and contrary to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations. Since the case involved incapacity for work, the Romanian authorities had heeded the opinion of a medical commission and considered that there were no legal grounds for requesting an advisory opinion from the International Court of Justice, as was done in the draft resolution.

10. In 1946, when the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations[21] was adopted, Romania had formulated reservations concerning section 29, relating to the settlement of disputes between the United Nations and a Member State, since in its view, the consent of all the parties concerned was necessary if such a dispute was to form the subject of an opinion by the Court. In the current case, the Romanian party did not agree that the alleged dispute should be referred to the Court. If the report that the former Romanian official was to have submitted was really urgent, the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities could easily decide that the matter should be dealt with by the Romanian expert who was currently a member of that body.

11. Miss BYRNE (United States of America) said that, in her view, the intent of draft resolution III was to seek a prompt opinion of the International Court of Justice on the applicability of article VI, section 22, of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations.[21] However, the resolution's current wording might not permit the Court to act expeditiously, and a long period of time, even one full year, might elapse before the Court was able to address the issue. Accordingly, the United States proposed a technical amendment, namely, the insertion of the words "on a priority basis" in paragraph 2 after the word "*Requests*". Before submitting the amendment, her delegation had consulted the delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany, which had taken a strong interest in the topic. The amendment was essentially procedural and served only to make the resolution's intent clearer; it did not change the substance of the text, and she therefore hoped that the amendment could be adopted by general agreement and that the Council would thereafter take action on the draft resolution.

12. The PRESIDENT said that, in accordance with rule 66 of the Council's rules of procedure, a vote would first be taken on the amendment proposed by the United States.

13. Miss BYRNE (United States of America) said that her intention had been that the amendment should be adopted by consensus.

14. Mr. MIKULKA (Czechoslovakia) said that the Council was not empowered to give the Court guidelines with regard to priorities when it did not know what other questions the Court had before it, and he would therefore prefer that the amendment be put to the vote.

15. Mr. GOLEMANOV (Bulgaria) endorsed the view expressed by the delegation of Czechoslovakia.

*A recorded vote was taken on the amendment proposed by the United States.*

*In favour*: Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela.

*Against*: Bulgaria, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Nicaragua, Poland, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

*Abstaining*: Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, China, Colombia, Ghana, Guinea, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Lesotho, Liberia, Niger, Oman, Rwanda, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tunisia, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

*The amendment to paragraph 2 of draft resolution III was adopted by 17 votes to 9, with 22 abstentions.*

*A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution III as amended.*

*In favour*: Bahamas, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia.

*Against*: Bulgaria, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Poland, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

*Abstaining*: Cameroon, China, Ghana, Guinea, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Lesotho, Liberia, Nicaragua, Niger, Oman, Rwanda, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Tunisia, Zaire, Zambia.

*Draft resolution III, as amended, was adopted by 24 votes to 8, with 19 abstentions* (resolution 1989/75).

DRAFT RESOLUTION IV

16. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft resolution IV, entitled "Principles and guarantees for the protection of persons detained on grounds of mental ill-health or suffering from mental disorder", the text of which was contained in paragraph 59 of document E/1989/88, and said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft resolution without a vote.

*Draft resolution IV was adopted* (resolution 1989/76).

DRAFT RESOLUTION V

17. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft resolution V, entitled "Study on treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements between States and indigenous populations", the text of which appeared in chapter I of document E/1989/20, and said that if he heard no objection he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft resolution without a vote.

*Draft resolution V was adopted* (resolution 1989/77).

DRAFT RESOLUTION VI

18. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft resolution VI, entitled "Guidelines on the use of computerized personal files", the text of which was contained in chapter I of document E/1989/20, and said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft resolution without a vote.

*Draft resolution VI was adopted* (resolution 1989/78).

19. Mr. ITO (Japan) said his delegation had joined the consensus on draft resolution VI but wished to express reservations in that regard. Since the policies and measures for the protection of personal information were different in each country for social, cultural and traditional reasons, the guidelines referred to in the resolution should have some degree of flexibility, so as to permit each country to introduce the rules it deemed most appropriate in the light of its own characteristics.

DRAFT RESOLUTION VII

20. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft resolution VII, entitled "Question of a convention on the rights of the child", the text of which was contained in chapter I of document E/1989/20, and said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft resolution without a vote.

*Draft resolution VII was adopted* (resolution 1989/79).

21. Mr. ITO (Japan) said his delegation had joined the consensus on draft resolution VII and would like to express its appreciation to the Working Group for its efforts. His country strongly supported the objectives of the draft convention, but felt that since a considerable degree of difference currently existed with regard to the policies and measures relating to children in force in the various countries, in-depth deliberations should be conducted when the General Assembly considered the draft convention at its forty-fourth session. His delegation would also like to maintain its reservations on certain points of the draft con-

vention, which it had expressed at the forty-fifth session of the Commission on Human Rights.

DRAFT RESOLUTION VIII

22. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft resolution VIII, entitled "Question of a draft declaration on the right and responsibility of individuals, groups and organs of society to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms", the text of which was contained in chapter I of document E/1989/20, and said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft resolution without a vote.

*Draft resolution VIII was adopted* (resolution 1989/80).

DRAFT RESOLUTION IX

23. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft resolution IX, entitled "International Covenants on Human Rights", the text of which was contained in paragraph 59 of document E/1989/88.

24. Mr. STOBY (Secretary of the Council) said that paragraph 2 of the draft resolution should be revised by moving the phrase "in order that the Covenants acquire genuine universality", beginning in the third line, and inserting it in the first line after the word "so".

25. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt draft resolution IX as orally revised.

*Draft resolution IX was adopted as orally revised* (resolution 1989/81).

DRAFT RESOLUTION X

26. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider draft resolution X, entitled "Infringements of trade union rights in South Africa", the text of which was contained in paragraph 59 of document E/1989/88.

27. Mr. RALEBITSO (Lesotho) drew the Council's attention to the fact that a change had been made in paragraph 9. The phrase "that the South African régime" should be deleted and the word "refer" should be replaced by the words "referral of".

28. Mr. GRILLO (Colombia) drew the Council's attention to the fact that draft resolution X did not appear in the Spanish version of document E/1989/88.

29. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt draft resolution X as amended.

*Draft resolution X was adopted as amended* (resolution 1989/82).

DRAFT DECISION 1

30. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft decision 1, entitled "Situation of human rights in South Africa", the text of which was contained in chapter I of document E/1989/20, and said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft decision.

*Draft decision 1 was adopted* (decision 1989/136).

DRAFT DECISION 2

31. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft decision 2, entitled "Implementation of the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of *Apartheid*", the text of which was contained in chapter I of document E/1989/20.

*A vote was taken on draft decision 2.*

*Draft decision 2 was adopted by 39 votes to 1, with 13 abstentions* (decision 1989/137).

DRAFT DECISION 3

32. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider draft decision 3, entitled "Realization of economic, social and cultural rights", the text of which was contained in chapter I of document E/1989/20. He said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt draft decision 3.

*Draft decision 3 was adopted* (decision 1989/138).

DRAFT DECISION 4

33. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft decision 4, entitled "Elaboration of a second optional protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming at the abolition of the death penalty", the text of which was contained in chapter I of document E/1989/20.

*A recorded vote was taken on draft decision 4.*

*In favour*: Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Kenya, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Zaire.

*Against*: Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan.

*Abstaining*: Bahamas, Belize, Cameroon, Cuba, Ghana, Guinea, Indonesia, Japan, Lesotho, Liberia, Rwanda, Sri Lanka, Trinidad and Tobago, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

*Draft decision 4 was adopted by 27 votes to 7, with 15 abstentions* (decision 1989/139).

34. Mr. TAHA (Sudan), speaking in explanation of vote after the vote, said that all countries had different cultures, religions and traditions and that constitutions and laws varied from one country to another. The abolition of the death penalty was contrary to Islamic law, which was one of the principal sources of Sudanese law. For that reason, his delegation was opposed to any provisions which would lead to the abolition of capital punishment; it believed that the establishment of its own constitutional and legal régime was a right inherent in the sovereignty of each and every country and that it was therefore unacceptable that the international community should try to impose on countries systems that might be appropriate for some but were completely contrary to the régimes or systems of others. There were shortcomings in resolution 1989/25 of the Commission on Human Rights, since neither the Commission nor the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities could deal with such complex matters as the abolition of capital punishment. Moreover, it was almost impossible for the Secretary-General to receive the views of all Governments and of the Special Rapporteur before 1 September 1989. It was clear that the question required much analysis and careful reflection. There was no need whatsoever to consider it with such haste, and priority should be given to other questions. In Sudan, the judiciary was independent and

the death penalty was not carried out until all other measures to guarantee the rights of those condemned had been exhausted. Sudan had acceded to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[3] and to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[3] and complied with the provisions of both. It did not, however, comply with the provisions of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[3] which it had not signed and to which it had not acceded.

35. Mr. ITO (Japan) said that his delegation had abstained in the vote on draft decision 4, since it believed that it was still premature and that the time was not yet ripe to proceed to the elaboration of a second optional protocol. Moreover, comments on the text of the draft second optional protocol from all Governments, as requested in paragraph 3 of resolution 1989/25 of the Commission on Human Rights, deserved most careful consideration, and sufficient time should be provided for the deliberations on those comments at the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly.

36. Mr. GALAL (Observer for Egypt) said that he was opposed to the abolition of the death penalty, since anyone who took the life of another should also die at the hands of justice. Moreover, it was not advisable to abolish the death penalty at a time such as the present when crimes related to drug offences and trafficking were proliferating.

DRAFT DECISION 5

37. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft decision 5, entitled "Report of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities", the text of which was contained in chapter I of document E/1989/20, and said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft decision.

*Draft decision 5 was adopted* (decision 1989/140).

DRAFT DECISION 6

38. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft decision 6, entitled "The right to development", the text of which was contained in chapter I of document E/1989/20, and said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft decision.

*Draft decision 6 was adopted* (decision 1989/141).

39. Mr. ITO (Japan) said that, although his delegation had joined the consensus in adopting draft decision 6, it wished to confirm that his country's position on the question of the right to development remained unchanged. It wished to confirm the view that it had expressed at the forty-fifth session of the Commission on Human Rights that there was an important difference between a right to development and a human right.

40. Miss BYRNE (United States of America) pointed out that her delegation had not participated in the adoption of draft decision 6.

41. Mr. GROLIG (Federal Republic of Germany) said that his country maintained its already well-known position on the so-called right to development.

DRAFT DECISION 7

42. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft decision 7, entitled "Reporting obligations of States parties to international instruments on human rights and effective functioning of bodies established pursuant to such instruments; ways and means of improving the reporting system under the United Nations human rights instruments", the text of which was contained in chapter I of document E/1989/20. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft decision.

*Draft decision 7 was adopted* (decision 1989/142).

DRAFT DECISION 8

43. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider draft decision 8, entitled "Effective functioning of bodies established pursuant to United Nations human rights instruments", the text of which was contained in chapter I of document E/1989/20, and said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft decision.

*Draft decision 8 was adopted* (decision 1989/143).

44. Mr. ITO (Japan) said that, although his delegation had joined the consensus in adopting draft decision 8, it wished to stress the view, which it had already expressed at the forty-fifth session of the Commission on Human Rights, that the financial difficulties that the treaty bodies were experiencing as a result of the reduced volume of contributions should be considered more vigorously and resolved, first and foremost, by the States parties to the human rights instruments concerned. Moreover, the solution of those financial problems could not continue indefinitely to depend on temporary financial assistance from the regular budget of the United Nations.

DRAFT DECISION 9

45. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft decision 9, entitled "General decision concerning the establishment of a working group of the Commission on Human Rights to examine situations referred to the Commission under Economic and Social Council resolution 1503 (XLVIII) and those situations of which the Commission is seized", the text of which was contained in chapter I of document E/1989/20. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft decision.

*Draft decision 9 was adopted* (decision 1989/144).

DRAFT DECISION 10

46. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft decision 10, entitled "Enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections", the text of which was contained in chapter I of document E/1989/20, and said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft decision.

*Draft decision 10 was adopted* (decision 1989/145).

DRAFT DECISION 11

47. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft decision 11, entitled "Rights of persons belonging to national, ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities", the text of which was contained in chapter I of document E/1989/20, and said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft decision.

*Draft decision 11 was adopted* (decision 1989/146).

DRAFT DECISION 12

48. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft decision 12, entitled "Situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Chile", the text of which was contained in chapter I of document E/1989/20, and said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft decision.

*Draft decision 12 was adopted* (decision 1989/147).

DRAFT DECISION 13

49. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft decision 13, entitled "Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran", the text of which was contained in chapter I of document E/1989/20.

*A recorded vote was taken on draft decision 13.*

*In favour*: Bahamas, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Lesotho, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Rwanda, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela.

*Against*: Cuba, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Nicaragua, Oman, Sri Lanka, Sudan.

*Abstaining*: Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Liberia, Niger, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Thailand, Tunisia, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

*Draft decision 13 was adopted by 22 votes to 8, with 16 abstentions* (decision 1989/148).

DRAFT DECISION 14

50. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft decision 14, entitled "Question of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Afghanistan", the text of which was contained in chapter I of document E/1989/20, and said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft decision.

*Draft decision 14 was adopted* (decision 1989/149).

DRAFT DECISION 15

51. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft decision 15, entitled "Situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in El Salvador", the text of which was contained in chapter I of document E/1989/20. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft decision.

*Draft decision 15 was adopted* (decision 1989/150).

DRAFT DECISION 16

52. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft decision 16, entitled "Situation in Equatorial Guinea", the text of which was contained in chapter I of document E/1989/20. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft decision.

*Draft decision 16 was adopted* (decision 1989/151).

DRAFT DECISION 17

53. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft decision 17, entitled "Assistance to Haiti in the field of human rights", the text of which was contained in chapter I of document E/1989/20. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft decision.

*Draft decision 17 was adopted* (decision 1989/152).

DRAFT DECISION 18

54. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft decision 18, entitled "Assistance to Guatemala in the field of human rights", the text of which was contained in chapter I of document E/1989/20. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft decision.

*Draft decision 18 was adopted* (decision 1989/153).

DRAFT DECISION 19

55. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft decision 19, entitled "Human rights situation in Romania", the text of which was contained in chapter I of document E/1989/20. Since the Second (Social) Committee had adopted the draft decision by recorded vote, he would take it, if there was no objection, that the Council wished to do likewise.

56. Mr. TANASIE (Observer for Romania) recalled that, since the beginning of the current regular session of the Economic and Social Council, his delegation had been providing the Second (Social) Committee with data and information on the human rights situation in Romania, a country in which full *de jure* and *de facto* equality existed among all its inhabitants without any distinctions on ethnic grounds. The Romanian State guaranteed the rights to work, health, education, culture and housing. Despite that, there were, as had been apparent in the course of the discussions in the Second (Social) Committee, States which, on the pretext of defending human rights, were pursuing other objectives that were outside that Committee's sphere of competence. Under cover of the so-called problem of national minorities, they were seeking only to sow discord among ethnic groups and dismember sovereign States, as had happened with Romania in the period between the world wars.

57. He firmly rejected those attempts, as well as the methods of investigation and monitoring by "special rapporteurs", as incompatible with the principles of sovereignty of States and non-interference in their internal affairs. In that context, the decisions of the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council merely intensified confrontations and were contrary to the spirit of the Final Act of the Helsinki Conference and to the Charter of the United Nations. Accordingly, Romania considered that those decisions were null and void, as were all attempts to violate the inalienable rights and national interests of its people. It was regrettable that the organs of the United Nations were being used to impose on Member States decisions that were contrary to the principle of non-interference in their internal affairs.

58. In Romania, there were no ethnic or social problems, and economic and political life was proceeding quite normally, something which was perhaps not to the liking of the sponsors of resolution 1989/75 of the Commission on Human Rights. Moreover, the Government wished to cooperate with the international community to promote human rights throughout the world on the basis of strict respect for the principles of national independence and sovereignty, equality of rights and non-interference in internal affairs.

59. Taken as a group, the delegations which had opposed draft decision 19 or abstained represented the majority of the States members of the Council which had voted in the Second (Social) Committee in favour of respect for the principles of the United Nations, which Romania was

defending. It was to be hoped that other members of the Council would join that majority.

*A recorded vote was taken on draft decision 19.*

*In favour*: Canada, Colombia, Denmark, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

*Against*: China, Cuba, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Nicaragua, Somalia, Sri Lanka.

*Abstaining*: Bahamas, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, Ghana, Guinea, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Niger, Oman, Rwanda, Sudan, Thailand, Zaire, Zambia.

*Draft decision 19 was adopted by 19 votes to 7, with 19 abstentions* (decision 1989/154).

DRAFT DECISION 20

60. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft decision 20, entitled "Organization of the work of the Commission on Human Rights", the text of which was contained in chapter I of document E/1989/20. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft decision.

*Draft decision 20 was adopted* (decision 1989/155).

61. Mr. ITO (Japan), speaking in explanation of vote, said that to the extent possible, the holding of the additional meetings referred to in the draft decision should be avoided. In addition, he considered that the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session should give careful consideration to 14 decisions adopted by the Council which had financial implications, namely those recommended as draft decisions 1, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 and 20 (E/1989/20, chap. I, sect. B), with a view to taking the necessary budgetary measures for their implementation.

DRAFT DECISION 21

62. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft decision 21, entitled "The right of peoples to self-determination and its application to peoples under colonial or alien domination or foreign occupation", the text of which was contained in the report of the Second (Social) Committee (E/1989/88, para. 60). In view of the fact that the Second (Social) Committee had adopted the draft decision by recorded vote, he would take it, if there was no objection, that the Council wished to do likewise.

63. Mr. LABERGE (Canada) said he wished to join the sponsors of draft decision 21.

64. The PRESIDENT said that the record of the meeting would reflect what the representative of Canada had said.

65. Mr. SASITORN (Thailand) said that Samoa wished to join the sponsors of draft decision 21.

66. The PRESIDENT said that the record of the meeting would reflect what the representative of Thailand had said.

67. Mr. SISOWATH (Observer for Democratic Kampuchea) said that the overwhelming majority of the Council would undoubtedly support draft decision 21. That would constitute not only a manifestation of deep concern on the part of the world community for the plight of the Cambodian people, but would also encourage the Cambodian National Resistance and the National Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea in their efforts to liberate the country and restore to the Cambodian people their inalienable right to self-determination.

68. Despite the fact that Viet Nam had made some conciliatory gestures, it continued to impede a just, durable political solution to the problem of Kampuchea. The time had come for it to accept in good faith an international mechanism for supervising the withdrawal of its troops, as well as the formation of a four-party interim government under the leadership of Prince Norodom Sihanouk, which would organize free general elections under international supervision.

69. Mr. OUDOVENKO (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic), speaking on a point of order, said that now was not the time for an explanation of the overall situation in South-East Asia, but for explanations of vote before the vote.

70. The PRESIDENT said that the representative of Democratic Kampuchea was not making a statement in an explanation of vote, since observers did not have the right to vote. He was simply making a statement, as was his right.

71. Mr. SISOWATH (Observer for Democratic Kampuchea) said that the Government of Viet Nam, which the United Nations had condemned year after year for its occupation of Kampuchea, should seize the opportunity to act in conformity with the wish of the Kampuchean and Vietnamese peoples, as well as of the international community, by immediately withdrawing all its forces.

72. Mrs. HOANG BICH LIEN (Observer for Viet Nam) said that the draft decision was simply a repetition of the text of previous resolutions, and distorted the actual situation in Kampuchea. The Kampuchean people had recovered from the genocide to which it had been subjected by the Pol Pot régime, while the State of Kampuchea was in control of and administering its entire territory and guaranteed the population a better and more stable standard of living.

73. Accordingly, to adopt draft decision 21 would be to ignore the voices being raised throughout the world against the return of the genocidal Pol Pot régime and for an end to the violations of human rights being committed in the refugee camps that existed along the border between Thailand and Kampuchea.

74. Viet Nam therefore rejected draft decision 21.

75. Mrs. CASTRO de BARISH (Observer for Costa Rica) said that she had the honour to support the draft decision, and that her country had followed the problem with great interest over the years. It was deeply concerned at the human rights situation as a result of the foreign occupation of Democratic Kampuchea and hoped that the complete withdrawal of the occupying troops could be secured so as to enable the suffering Kampuchean people to exercise fully their right to self-determination.

*A recorded vote was taken on draft decision 21.*

*In favour*: Bahamas, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, China, Colombia, Denmark, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Oman, Portugal, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

*Against*: Bulgaria, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Nicaragua, Poland, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

*Abstaining*: Iraq, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

*Draft decision 21 was adopted by 43 votes to 7, with 2 abstentions.*

DRAFT DECISIONS PROPOSED BY THE PRESIDENT

76. The PRESIDENT drew the Council's attention to a draft decision entitled "Report of the Commission on Human Rights", reading:

"The Economic and Social Council takes note of the report of the Commission on Human Rights on its forty-fifth session (E/1989/20)".

77. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft decision.

*It was so decided* (decision 1989/157).

78. The PRESIDENT drew the Council's attention to a draft decision entitled "Provisional rules of procedure adopted by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights", reading:

"The Economic and Social Council

"(*a*) Takes note of the provisional rules of procedure adopted by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights at its third session (E/1989/L.9, annex IV);

"(*b*) Decides to defer until its first regular session of 1990 consideration of those rules and, in the interim, requests the Committee to continue to use the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council."

79. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to approve the draft decision.

*It was so decided* (decision 1989/158).

COMMEMORATION OF THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FORERUNNER TO THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS OF 1949

80. The PRESIDENT reminded members of the Council that the 125th anniversary of the establishment of the instrument which had served as a basis for the Geneva Conventions of 1949 on humanitarian law would take place in 1989. The purpose of those agreements was to preserve human dignity and human life in cases of conflict, and they embodied the principle of providing disinterested assistance to all war victims without discrimination. In that connection, he had received a letter from the Permanent Observer of Switzerland to the United Nations informing him that the anniversary in question would be celebrated by a ceremony to be held at United Nations Headquarters on 13 October 1989, with the participation of the Secretary-General. Thereafter, an exhibition would be held on the history and the importance of the Geneva Conventions.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

81. The PRESIDENT, referring to the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its third session (E/1989/L.9), pointed out that there was a recommendation regarding the pre-sessional working group in paragraph 338 and that the Second (Social) Committee had not taken any decision on it.

82. He announced that the Council had concluded its consideration of agenda item 9.

## AGENDA ITEM 2

**Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (*concluded*)* (E/1989/48, E/1989/L.18)**

DRAFT RESOLUTION E/1989/L.18

83. The PRESIDENT drew the Council's attention to the draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination" (E/1989/L.18).

84. He said that if he heard no objection he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft resolution.

*It was so decided* (resolution 1989/83).

85. Miss BYRNE (United States of America), speaking in explanation of position, said that the United States had unreservedly supported the proclamation by consensus of the first Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination in 1973, but had stopped taking part in any related activities once the General Assembly adopted, in 1975, resolution 3379 (XXX), in which zionism was said to be a form of racism. It had also not participated in the activities of the Second Decade.

86. Mr. GROLIG (Federal Republic of Germany), speaking in explanation of position, said that his delegation welcomed the adoption by consensus of draft resolution E/1989/L.18, which further advanced the implementation of General Assembly resolution 38/14. Nevertheless, he reiterated his view that it was not appropriate to refer to migrant workers in that context. The status of migrant workers did not imply criteria conducive to racial discrimination and a general link could not be established between the status of migrant workers and racism.

GLOBAL CONSULTATION ON RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

87. The PRESIDENT said that if he heard no objection he would take it that the Council wished to take note of the Secretary-General's report regarding the global consultation on racism and racial discrimination (E/1989/48).

*It was so decided* (decision 1989/159).

88. The PRESIDENT announced that the Council had concluded its consideration of agenda item 2.

## AGENDA ITEM 1

**Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (*concluded*) (E/1989/L.19)**

GUIDELINES FOR INTERNATIONAL DECADES (*concluded*)** (E/1989/L.19)

89. The PRESIDENT asked the representative of Bolivia to report to the Council on the outcome of the informal consultations on the guidelines for international decades in economic and social fields.

90. Mrs. ASHTON (Bolivia) said that not many had taken part in the informal consultations but that, thanks to the understanding of those delegations which had participated, it had been possible to reach a consensus on the text that the Council had before it. In that regard, she particularly noted the beginning of the operative paragraph

*Resumed from the 12th meeting.
**Resumed from the 8th meeting.

of the draft resolution: "*Recommends* that the General Assembly should continue considering the revised guidelines . . . ".

91. The PRESIDENT said that if he heard no objections, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft resolution.

*The draft resolution was adopted* (resolution 1989/84).

92. Mr. PAYTON (New Zealand) said that it was regrettable that the Council had not been able to make more progress, although he felt that something had been accomplished and looked forward to the possibility of joining a consensus on the question when the General Assembly considered it at its forty-fourth session. He recalled with concern the difficulties that had arisen during the forty-third session of the Assembly in the Second Committee, and although he was aware of the Assembly's prerogatives, he proposed that the Council should recommend, through its President or by means of a formal or informal decision, that at the forty-fourth session the matter should not be referred to any of the Main Committees but rather should be considered in plenary meeting.

93. The PRESIDENT said that it was for the General Committee of the Assembly to recommend where the question would be considered and that the Council could not impose its decisions on it. However, the Council's views could be conveyed to the General Committee.

94. Mr. SALARICH (Observer for Spain), speaking on behalf of the member countries of the European Community, said that they attached great importance to the draft resolution that had just been adopted. It was not the decision the Community had hoped for, but all indications were that it would facilitate the adoption of a final text by the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session. The point should be made in the relevant bodies, including the General Committee, that it was necessary to avoid the difficulties that had arisen when the Second Committee had considered the question at the forty-third session of the Assembly.

95. Mr. SHAPOVALOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation had not objected to the adoption by consensus of the draft resolution on guidelines for international decades in economic and social fields, in view of the fact that it would be transmitted to the General Assembly, which would examine the question in depth at its forty-fourth session. The guidelines were intended to guarantee the necessary financing and encourage long-term activities, and the Soviet Union trusted that the underlying principles would be taken into account also in the proclamation of international decades in the political field.

96. Mr. HARRISON (United Kingdom) said that his delegation welcomed the adoption by consensus of the draft resolution. Although his Government would have preferred a firmer recommendation, it was aware that the text adopted represented an important step towards final adoption by the General Assembly of guidelines on international decades in economic and social fields. He concurred with the representative of New Zealand as to the manner in which the General Assembly should consider the question. While aware of the Assembly's competence, he trusted that the President would convey to the Assembly the views of the members of the Council on the matter.

97. Mr. MORA GODOY (Cuba) said that he regretted that the Council's volume of work had prevented delegations from giving the requisite attention to the question, especially the delegations of developing countries, which could not take part simultaneously in many meetings. The text had been adopted less than 10 hours after its introduction, even though rule 54 of the rules of procedure stipulated that proposals should be discussed or put to the vote no earlier than 24 hours after their circulation. He hoped that what the Council had done would not set a precedent. It was up to the General Assembly to decide how it would consider the question at its next session, but it might have to consult with its subsidiary bodies, including the Second and Third Committees.

98. The PRESIDENT said that the Council had concluded its consideration of agenda item 1.

## AGENDA ITEM 14

### Consideration of the provisional agenda for the second regular session of 1989 (E/1989/L.16)

99. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider agenda item 14 and said, with regard to paragraph 4 of the note by the Secretariat (E/1989/L.16) proposing that the duration of the second regular session be shortened by two days, that the Bureau recommended adding the phrase "on the understanding that meetings could be held on 27 and 28 July if required" at the end of the last sentence.

100. Mr. GRILLO (Colombia) proposed reversing the order of items 3 and 4 of the draft provisional agenda contained in the note by the Secretariat (*ibid.*), to allow the current item 4 on the special session of the General Assembly devoted to international economic co-operation to be considered immediately after the general discussion of international economic and social policy. The current item 3 on revitalization of the Economic and Social Council would then become item 4.

101. Mr. PAPADATOS (Greece) endorsed the proposal of the representative of Colombia.

102. Mr. SHAPOVALOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) drew the Council's attention to paragraph 13 (*a*) of document E/1989/L.16, according to which interpretation services would be provided only for plenary meetings as from 24 July. The Council had a very heavy programme of work and the Secretariat should make sure that the Council had interpretation services for informal consultations through the conclusion of its session. Savings should not be made at the expense of such services.

103. Mr. ELGHOUAYEL (Tunisia) supported the statement of the representative of the Soviet Union. An explanation should be given of why interpretation services could not be provided during the last week of the second regular session. It was not possible to work on that basis.

104. Miss POIRET (France) endorsed the views expressed by the representatives of the Soviet Union and Tunisia. In accordance with tradition in the United Nations, there must be interpretation services, not only for plenary meetings but also for informal meetings. If savings had to be made, they should be made in other areas and not in the language services.

105. Mr. AL-KAHTANY (Saudi Arabia) and Mr. SALARICH (Observer for Spain) endorsed the views expressed by the delegations of the Soviet Union, Tunisia and France regarding paragraph 13 of document E/1989/L.16. Interpretation had to be provided in all the official languages.

106. Mr. YOSSIF (Iraq) asked for an explanation of why interpretation services would not be provided either in the last week or in night meetings. Such a measure violated rule 29 of the Council's rules of procedure.

107. Mr. FALL (Observer for Senegal) asked for clarification on paragraph 13 (*b*) of document E/1989/L.16; he wished to know exactly what services would not be provided.

108. Mr. SALES (Observer for Mozambique) said that the General Assembly in paragraph 10 of resolution 43/208 on assistance to Mozambique had requested the Secretary-General to apprise the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1989 of the status of the programmes of assistance to Mozambique. His delegation asked to have the report made directly in plenary meeting of the Council, which would allow the oral report on, *inter alia*, the results of the meeting held in New York in April on international assistance to Mozambique to be delivered to a wider audience after the conclusion of the general debate.

109. Mr. CHABALA (Zambia) supported the request made by the representative of Mozambique.

110. Miss HASSAN (Observer for Egypt) asked for clarification from the Secretariat on the documentation for agenda item 7 (*f*), "Environment". In paragraph 13 of General Assembly resolution 42/186 the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme was invited to report to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session on the implementation of that resolution and the relevant provisions of the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond. She wondered what the current status of the report was.

111. Mr. MARTIN (United Kingdom) said that he wished to raise the matter of the time at which the plenary Council would discuss the question of the convening of a conference on environment and development in 1992, contemplated in General Assembly resolution 43/196. Although a plenary meeting was to be devoted to that question on 13 July, beginning at 3 p.m., he wished to know whether it would be possible to bring forward the date of consideration to 7 July in order to enable a substantial number of ambassadors and senior officials to attend. If that was not possible, perhaps the meeting should be held at 10 a.m. in order to allow statements by many more speakers.

112. Mr. STOBY (Secretary of the Council), referring to the comments of the delegations of Colombia and Greece concerning items 3 and 4 of the draft provisional agenda (E/1989/L.16), said that two proposals had been made: item 4 should become item 3; and the order of consideration of those two items should be reversed, so that item 4 would be taken up on Friday, 14 July, in the morning, instead of on Monday, 17 July, and item 3 would be taken up on 14 July in the afternoon. The Secretariat had no technical objection to make, and the Council must take a decision on the subject.

113. With regard to paragraph 13 of document E/1989/L.16, to which a number of delegations had referred, it was necessary to distinguish between two separate questions: according to subparagraph (*a*), interpretation services would be provided, as from 24 July, for plenary meetings only; a similar provision had been included for many years in proposed programmes of work submitted by the Secretariat to the Council for the second regular session and reflects a practice which had been current for many years and had not held back the Council in its work. Moreover, under the programme of work proposed, the sessional committees were due to complete their work on 21 July; accordingly, the Secretariat assumed that from 24 July onwards the committees would no longer require interpretation services. Secondly, with regard to subparagraph (*b*) of the same paragraph, the Secretariat was not able to provide conference services for night meetings owing to the current financial difficulties. That practice had been initiated at the beginning of the financial crisis of the Organization. There was therefore no provision for night meetings in the proposed programme of work.

114. The observer for Mozambique, supported by the observer for Zambia, had suggested that the oral presentation on assistance to Mozambique, which was scheduled for Monday, 10 July, in the Third (Programme and Co-ordination) Committee, should be made in the plenary Council. He understood that suggestion to mean that the oral presentation should be made in the plenary Council and that the rest of the debate, together with the adoption of measures under the item, should be held in the Third Committee. If, according to the programme of work proposed, the consideration of item 13, on special economic and humanitarian assistance, in respect of which an oral presentation was to be made, was scheduled to begin on Monday, 10 July, the plenary Council would be halfway through its general discussion. Accordingly, if the oral presentation was to be made in the plenary Council before or when the item was taken up in the Committee, that would have to be fitted in during the general discussion. If the Council wished to act on the suggestion of the observers for Mozambique and Zambia, the Secretariat was of the view that the consideration of the question of assistance to Mozambique, instead of beginning on Monday, 10 July, in the Committee, should be delayed until there was a suitable opportunity for the oral presentation during the second week of plenary meetings.

115. Answering the question put by the observer for Egypt concerning item 7 (*f*), "Environment", and the reports which would be made available to the Council under that item, he said that General Assembly resolution 43/196 indicated that there would be two types of reports: the views of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme and the reports to be submitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council.

116. The representative of the United Kingdom had suggested that the plenary discussion of the question of the convening of a United Nations conference on environment and development, which was scheduled for Thursday, 13 July, at 3 p.m., should be held earlier. It must be pointed out that the Secretariat had selected the date of 13 July in order not to interrupt the general discussion. That was in keeping with the usual practice, although no definite rule existed. If the members of the Council were in favour of an interruption of the general discussion in order to fit in the consideration of the question of the convening of a conference, they could adopt a decision to that effect, although it would mean a departure from past practice.

117. Mr. SHAPOVALOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that he interpreted what had been stated by the representative of the Secretariat as an official confirmation that the Secretariat would supply interpretation

services at all consultations and meetings held by the Council from 24 July onwards.

118. Miss HASSAN (Observer for Egypt) asked, in connection with item 5 of the draft provisional agenda (E/1989/L.16), whether "national resources" should read "natural resources".

119. The PRESIDENT said that it would seem that the words "national resources" should indeed be replaced by "natural resources". However, this was not a new item. The title could be verified in previous agendas of second regular sessions of the Council.

120. Mr. ELGHOUAYEL (Tunisia), referring to paragraph 13 (*a*) of document E/1989/L.16, said he wished to be sure that, if informal consultations of the sessional committees were held after 24 July, the Secretariat would provide interpretation services. If such was the case, paragraph 13 (*a*) could be deleted.

121. Miss POIRET (France) associated herself with the statements made by the representatives of the Soviet Union and Tunisia and wished it to be confirmed that interpretation services would be provided at all meetings, whether formal or informal, as from 24 July.

122. Mr. AL-KAHTANY (Saudi Arabia) supported the Tunisian proposal for the deletion of paragraph 13 (*a*) of document E/1989/L.16. Should that not prove possible, he suggested that the last sentence of subparagraph (*a*) should read: "As from 24 July, no meetings will be held"; subparagraph (*b*) should be worded: "No night meetings will be held during the session"; and subparagraph (*c*) should be deleted.

123. Mr. STOBY (Secretary of the Council) said that there was nothing new about paragraph 13 of document E/1989/L.16. Since the plenary Council did not normally meet during the last week of the session, the interpretation services made available to it could be used if necessary. Moreover, although in principle the Bureau agreed that the work of the session should be completed on 26 July, it had suggested that services for the plenary Council should be available on 27 and 28 July. In that regard, nothing had changed from previous years, except for the inclusion of paragraph 13 (*b*), a provision which had first been applied because of the financial crisis and was due to the reduced resources available to the Organization.

124. Mr. PAYTON (New Zealand) said that the changes suggested by the Secretary of the Council to document E/1989/L.16 were acceptable. However, if the meeting devoted to the question of the convening of a United Nations conference on environment and development was brought forward to 10 a.m. on Thursday, 13 July, the discussion would certainly not be over by 1 p.m.

125. Mr. STOBY (Secretary of the Council) said that, pursuant to Council decision 1989/101, a plenary meeting of the second regular session should be devoted to the question of the convening of a United Nations conference on environment and development. The Secretariat could not decide that the consideration of that question should take more than one meeting, since that would be at variance with what had been decided by the Council itself.

126. Mr. MARTIN (United Kingdom) said he did not recall that it had been decided that every meeting should have a duration of three hours. In any event, the Council could continue the discussion in the afternoon, or suspend its discussion of item 2 at 1 p.m. on 7 July and devote the afternoon meeting to the question of the convening of the conference.

127. Mr. PAPADATOS (Greece) said that, notwithstanding the interesting proposal by the United Kingdom, the Secretary's original proposal could be implemented by holding prior consultations with the executive heads of the organizations of the United Nations system.

128. Mr. STOBY (Secretary of the Council) said that, while the Secretariat would like to provide the member States with any interpretation services they might require, it could not make such a commitment owing to the curtailment of the resources made available by the Members of the Organization. The Organization's budget had shrunk, yet the number of meetings had not changed, and that necessarily impinged on the services which the Secretariat could provide, as had been rightly emphasized in the discussions of the matter held in the competent budgetary and financial bodies.

129. Mr. ELGHOUAYEL (Tunisia) said that since his country's contribution to the regular budget of the Organization, which Tunisia consistently paid on time, had recently increased, he failed to see how the budget could have shrunk. In any event, the implementation of paragraph 13 (*a*) of document E/1989/L.16 was subject to the implementation of paragraph 4 of the same document, where it was suggested that the Council should shorten its second regular session by two days in 1989. That was not a decision but a proposal, and interpretation services would have to be provided if the Council was unable to achieve its aim in that regard. His delegation therefore proposed the deletion of the words "as from 24 July, interpretation services will be provided for plenary meetings only" at the end of paragraph 13 (*a*).

130. Miss POIRET (France) said that she was somewhat concerned by the most recent proposal of the Secretariat and would prefer the Council to act on the earlier suggestion, namely, the deletion of subparagraphs (*a*) and (*c*).

131. Mr. MUNTASSER (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) said that the need for interpretation services in the official languages was unquestionable and he trusted that the Secretariat would endeavour to solve that problem. In order not to prolong the discussion, he proposed that document E/1989/L.16 should be adopted without change and that the question should be considered again at the beginning of the Council's second regular session.

132. Mr. TAHA (Sudan) endorsed the proposal of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and suggested the addition of the words "unless they are necessary" after the word "only" in paragraph 13 (*a*).

133. Mr. SHAPOVALOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the Council must take a decision forthwith, since in Geneva it would be too late. If the Department of Conference Services lacked the necessary resources, the President should bring the matter to the attention of the Secretary-General, who should endeavour to obtain them.

134. The PRESIDENT said that, although he would be only too pleased to address an appeal to the Secretary-General reflecting the views of the members of the Council, he must again point out that the Secretariat could not provide more resources than were available to it. If there were no other comments, he would take it that the Council wished to approve draft provisional agenda and the organization of work of the second regular session of 1989 pro-

posed in document E/1989/L.16, with the following changes: (*a*) item 4, which would become item 3, would be considered on Friday, 14 July, in the morning instead of on Monday, 17 July; (*b*) a way would be sought of enabling the oral presentation on assistance to Mozambique to be made during the second week of the session; (*c*) the question of the convening of a United Nations conference on environment and development would be considered on 13 July in the morning instead of the afternoon.

*It was so decided* (decision 1989/162).

135. The PRESIDENT announced that the Council had concluded its consideration of agenda item 14.

### *Closure of the session*

136. The PRESIDENT declared the first regular session of 1989 of the Economic and Social Council closed.

*The meeting rose at 6.35 p.m.*

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NOTES

[1]E/CONF.82/15 and Corr.2.

[2]*Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

[3]See General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[4]General Assembly resolution 41/128, annex.

[5]General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

[6]General Assembly resolution 38/14, annex.

[7]E/1988/58 and Corr.1.

[8]General Assembly resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[9]General Assembly resolution 3068 (XXVIII), annex.

[10]Another addendum (E/1989/42/Add.4) to the report was issued on 4 August 1989.

[11]General Assembly resolution 260 A (III), annex.

[12]General Assembly resolution 34/180, annex.

[13]"Procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace in Central America", signed at Guatemala City on 7 August 1987 by the Presidents of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua at the Esquipulas II summit meeting (A/42/521-S/19085, annex). For the printed text, see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-second Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1987*, document S/19085, annex.

[14]United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[15]*Ibid.*, vol. 606, No. 8791.

[16]General Assembly resolution 42/47, annex.

[17]See A/39/167-E/1984/33 and Add.1 and 2.

[18]General Assembly resolution 40/64 G, annex.

[19]General Assembly resolution 36/55.

[20]United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

[21]General Assembly resolution 22 A (I).

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